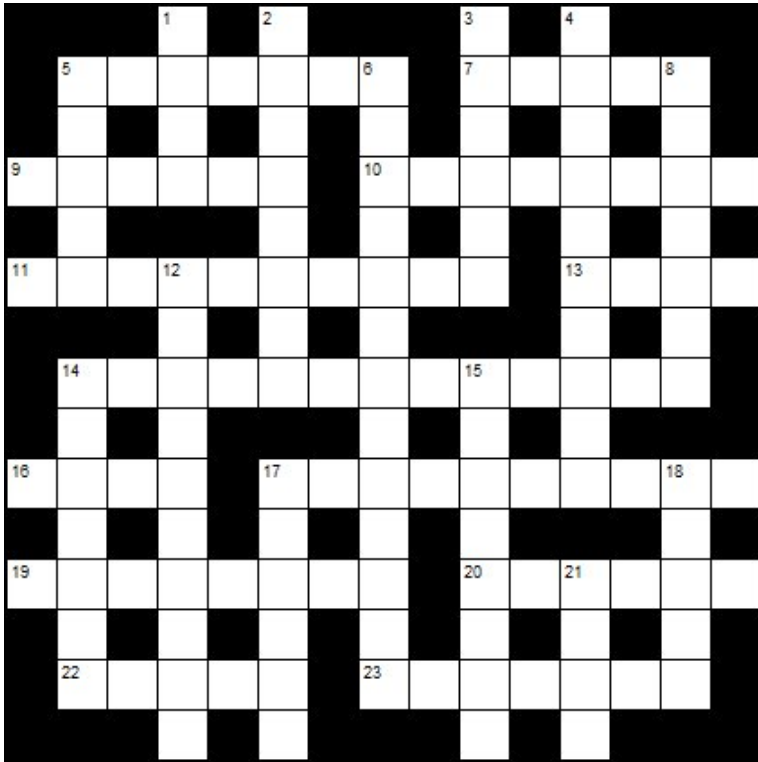


Puzzle by Stone Age Man

This is an Everyman-style puzzle that should appeal to all: accessible clues with elegant surface readings, sound construction and plenty of wit. Favourites are 14 across for its imagery and the clever 14 down.



ACROSS

- 5 Five articles about sickly flavour (7)
- 7 Take away Michigan students (5)
- 9 Dutch city border follows a river north (6)
- 10 Grace's short poem on a new church (8)
- 11 Infantry game for river crossing (10)
- 13 Madrid escape in the middle of March? Quite the opposite (4)
- 14 Fermented apple skin – then hallucinations! (4,9)
- 16 Fish for squirming eels initially (4)
- 17 Ravers sent staggering from side to side (10)
- 19 Observe passion burning with anger (8)
- 20 Develop woven spandex losing stretchiness at first (6)
- 22 Peg and Oscar in obscene retrospective (5)
- 23 Medical equipment in Grey's pants (7)

DOWN

- 1 Slowly move decapitated bird (4)
- 2 The best in the orchard? (4,4)
- 3 Limped eastward carrying hamper (6)
- 4 No change in inane vicar with bats in the belfry! (10)
- 5 Sign of success after six runs (5)
- 6 Scotsman's beef? (8,5)
- 8 Double century before start of evening within grasp. Good result (7)
- 12 Hollywood at Christmas – or whenever? (6,4)
- 14 Give warning of drink running out? (7)
- 15 Landlord standing before The Spanish Railway Inn (8)
- 17 Let rip furiously three times ... (6)
- 18 ... because confined by wardens in cell (5)
- 21 Sort of rock music fan without a hotel (4)