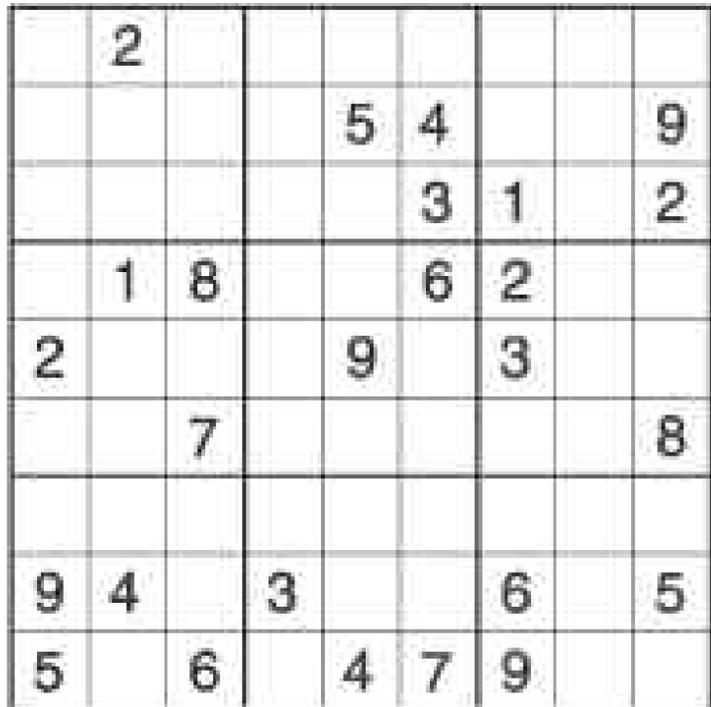


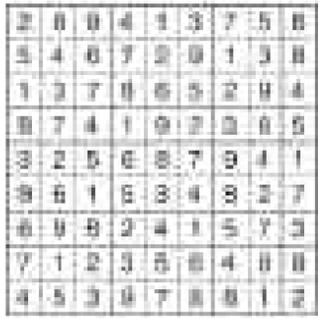
SUDOKU CORNER



How to play

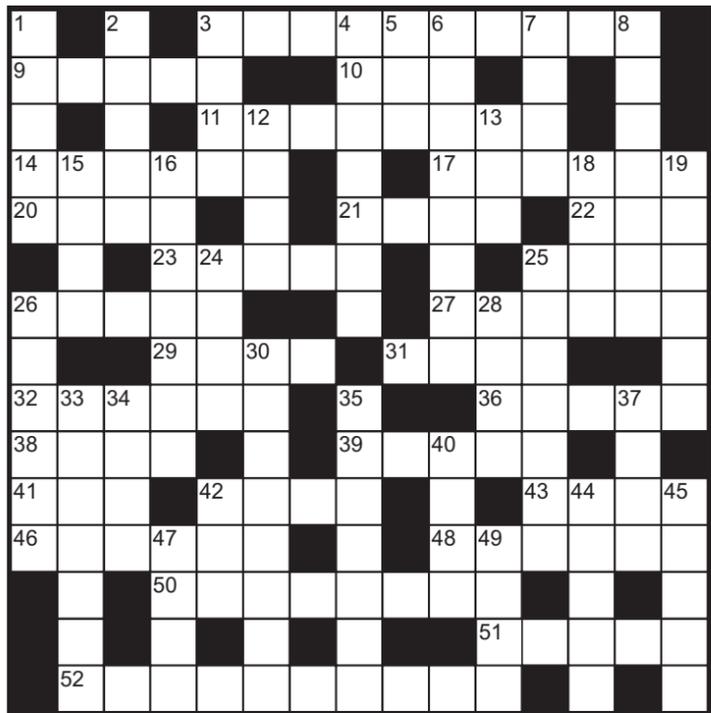
Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9. That's all there is to it. There's no maths involved. The grid has numbers, but nothing has to add up to anything. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic. It's fun. It's challenging. It's addictive! Solving time is typically 10-30 minutes depending on your skill level and experience.

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION



CROSSWORD No. 5600

Solution page 61



ACROSS

- 3 Works together
- 9 Softly (mus)
- 10 Land measure
- 11 Remoteness
- 14 Essays on themes
- 17 Constraint
- 20 Location
- 21 Above
- 22 Humour
- 23 Incendiarism
- 25 Yield
- 26 Stage of advancement
- 27 Rubber
- 29 Norwegian capital
- 31 Lyric poems
- 32 Sparse
- 36 Minute particles
- 38 Undermines
- 39 Paris subway
- 41 Entity
- 42 Dreadful
- 43 Entranced
- 46 Picturesque
- 48 Bacon slice
- 50 Leaving out
- 51 Gems
- 52 Enduring great heat

DOWN

- 1 Short gaiters
- 2 Younger son
- 3 Cypher
- 4 Customers
- 5 Period of time
- 6 Given up
- 7 Layer
- 8 Settle
- 12 Egyptian goddess
- 13 Worthless dog
- 15 Lofty
- 16 Times of the year
- 18 Female sheep
- 19 Parts of ships
- 24 Repose
- 25 Small swivelled wheels
- 26 Goes by
- 28 Bring up
- 30 Writer of songs' words
- 33 Crosses out
- 34 Church recess
- 35 Place where metal is separated from ore
- 37 Yield to low spirits
- 40 Mountain lake
- 42 Obscure
- 44 Leading
- 45 Long lock
- 47 Swelling
- 49 In excited eagerness

OUR PEOPLE

AFTER the birth of her son in 2000 Allayne Webster fell back on her childhood passion of writing. Her first book *Our Little Secret* was launched in 2007, and she went on quickly to write her second book *Barnesy*. MEG MURDOCH caught up with her at the launch.

The secret's out ... Allayne launches her second book

ALLAYNE Webster's passion for writing started at a very young age. In fact the first novel she wrote was in Year 10 – a tragic love story that was passed around the class.

But Allayne vows it will never reach the light of day again.

"I began writing my first novel in 2000 and it came out in 2007, launched by now-senator Nick Xenophon," she said. "It was called *Our Little Secret*."

"I got back into writing after my son Dillon was born," she said. "I was used to being under pressure at work with deadlines and responsibilities, and I found motherhood so different. I needed something for me, so I went back to my writing."

The book was a success and was accepted "straight off the belt" by the publisher Omnibus, an imprint of Scholastic.

The story touches on the topic of sexual abuse and is currently being considered by Education Minister Jay Weatherill to be part of the school curriculum.

Soon after the launch of her first book, Allayne's publisher asked her if she would like to contribute to the Aussie Mates children's series of books.

"I was very keen," she said. "I wrote one very quickly – I think it took me about two hours to write. I sent it in and my publisher Dyan Blacklock loved it."

Barnesy is a children's book illustrated by Tom Jellett and is about a child growing up in the country.

The inspiration for Allayne came from many sources, especially with her rural upbringing.

"I grew up in Kingston – I was born in Adelaide and then Mum moved down there when I was five," she said. "The idea for the book came when I was walking along North Terrace and I spied

one of the centenary plaques for Alfred Hannaford, agricultural inventor. Given that I had grown up in the country, I thought I had better find out about this man."

Allayne researched Alfred and found he would make the perfect name for the character in her book – Hannaford.

"I am inspired by people who have an inherent talent and that is what struck me about Alfred," she said. "He left school when he was 14 and his inventions were developed in the back shed without any training and just by using his instinct."

"I feel a real affinity to that, in that writing for me is an instinct as opposed to something that has been taught."

As for the name of the novel, Jimmy Barnes has always been a favourite of Allayne's and she has spent many car trips down the Coorong listening to *Barnesy*.

Allayne had to get permission from Jimmy to use his image in her book, and said she had some great feedback from him about the story.

"It was quite surreal to be signing a book for Jimmy Barnes who I grew up listening to, and who was a bit of a hero to me," she said.

Allayne is well on her way with her next books, with *Stresshead* to be launched during 2011 and another novel, *Binge*.

"*Stresshead* is pitched a teenage girls and it basically looks at the stress in our lives," she said.

The main protagonist Dennie is from a family of lawyers, and she feels pressured to go to law school when she finishes school.

"The people around her are stressed and they all deal with stress in different

I needed something for me, so I went back to my writing



GREAT SUCCESS: Author Allayne Webster has had much success in her writing, with her first novel *Our Little Secret* being considered for the school curriculum and her second novel *Barnesy* launched in August.