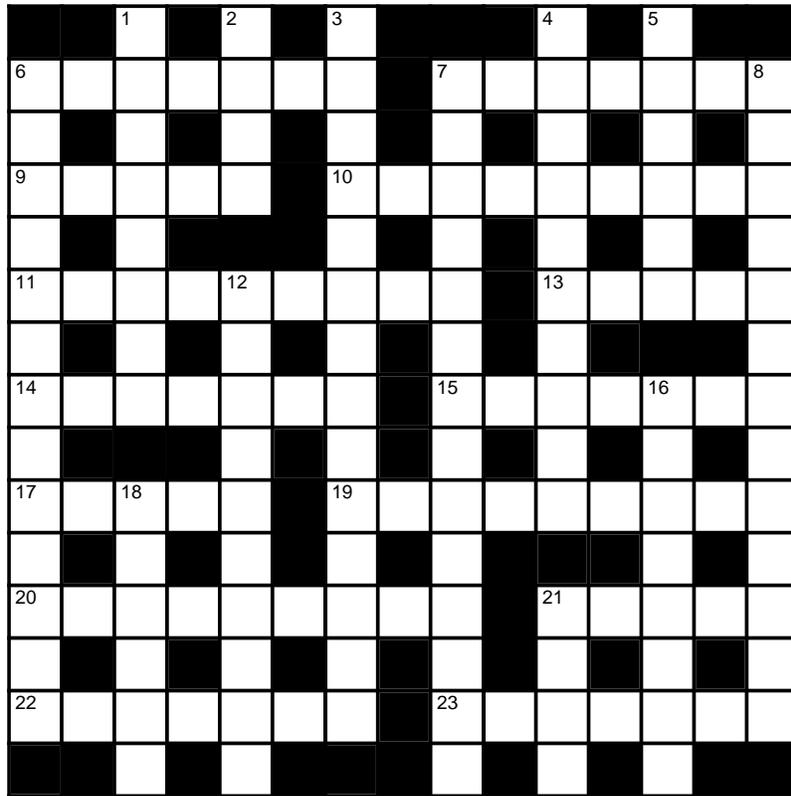


Theme and Variations



A novel theme, which is unstated, leads to two sets of variations. These are only partially clued where a variation is a solution; where a variation forms part of a clue, clues are normal.

Across

- 6** Tramp around island with file (7)
- 7** Fresh madeira cake somehow eked out with tongue (7)
- 9** Weight used for VAR 2 in some places (5)
- 10** Utterly rotten duel I cocked up in the main (9)
- 11** Wood product - novel insanely 10 broadcast (4,5)
- 13** Race Mary Ann Evans around (5)
- 14** Shag source of VAR 1's plague (7)
- 15** It controls VAR 1 with endless filth (4,3)
- 17** VAR 1s with trim suit (5)
- 19** VAR 1, otherwise let - it's ghastly! (9)
- 20** Turkish composer clarified career aim (4,5)
- 21** Cunnilingus performed from 6 - 10 in a skirt (5)
- 22** It's sound to fix part of the roof with feeling (7)
- 23** Where nuts are found - in flies, perhaps? (7)

Down

- 1** Took up and coupled (8)
- 2** VAR 2 is a brandy (4)
- 3** VAR 1 - with a little support it may become VAR 2 (8,6)
- 4** VAR 2 makes it difficult to party (4,6)
- 5** Many in faery ring produce VAR 1, perhaps (6)
- 6** VAR 1, stiff, getting legless? [At one time it was VAR 2] (13)
- 7** Setter, it pains me, is rather autistic, unfortunately (5,9)
- 8** VAR 2, with one end for each life? (3-1-4-5)
- 12** Very sizeable adipose tissue starts in the bit below the waist - control consequences with this? (10)
- 16** VAR 1 in Spain, weaving a nice rug (8)
- 18** VAR 1 at sea a constant blue (6)
- 21** VAR 2 from 8? Head off to expose oneself (4)