

Report for Cryptic Crossword Group 8th November

By Sue Overton

Phew, what awesome concentration! Eleven brains worked hard in our fifth session to work through a warm up consisting of 5 anagram, 5 hidden, 5 sandwich/container and 5 takeaway clues before progressing to a new clue type – reversals.

In reversal clues, the whole of a solution can sometimes be reversed to form another entirely different word e.g. Knock back beer like a king (5)

‘Back’ indicates this is a reversal clue. The wordplay and what to do = ‘knock back beer’ while the definition = ‘like a king’

So the solution is REGAL i.e. reverse ‘BEER=LAGER’

Some reversal indicators apply to down clues only e.g. ‘turned up’, ‘raised’, ‘served up’.

After our essential caffeine break we finished as usual with the Times quick cryptic crossword.

The above might sound like hard work but it is also fun and everyone agrees their crossword solving skills have improved so if you would like to give your brain a good workout, you are welcome to join us.

Our next meeting is on Wednesday 13th December at 2pm in the Guide HQ Birch Road.

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