

## Cryptic Crossword Group - Report by Sue Overton

For this final meeting before taking a summer break we focussed on the Novelty clue type.

Definitely a tricky one as it does not conform to any single pattern, defying categorization into any of the clue types we have already worked through. There is a need to think laterally and disregard misleading images created by the clue. Sometimes (thankfully rarely) there is no proper definition and there may or may not be an indicator. There may be an exclamation mark to signal something extraordinary.

Example:-

Clue: Eccentric as three-quarters of the characters in Fiji? (5)

Definition: Eccentric

Definition: as three-quarters of the characters in Fiji

What to do: Find a word describing three of the four letters in Fiji

Solution: DOTTY

Easy when you have the answer!

We have steadily worked our way through the eleven different clue types as described in Tim Moorey's book 'How to Crack Cryptic Crosswords'. When we return on 11<sup>th</sup> September, we will attempt to solve a variety of crosswords from the easier quick cryptics to the trickier Sunday Times cryptic crossword. If you would like to join us please contact me on 07512 368884

Sue Overton