

This year marks the centenary of the first (and so far only) Triangular Tournament in Test cricket, played by England, Australia and South Africa. The leading run-scorer, wicket-taker and all-rounder for each country over the summer feature in the grid below

Across

1 Poets, not half cowardly, returning for leading batsman (8)

5 Leading bowler replaces some of kitchen utensil's energy with force (6)

9 Opener catches a fine return as leading all-rounder (8)

10 Leading bowler covers last man with strips (6)

11 Majestic in Singapore gala (5)

12 Furiously tears into paper-seller (9)

14 Vague-sounding leading all-rounder (7)

17 Child, a friend in every respect (7)

19 Ecstasy you and I give sheep (3)

20 Maintains not-outs and sits around (7)

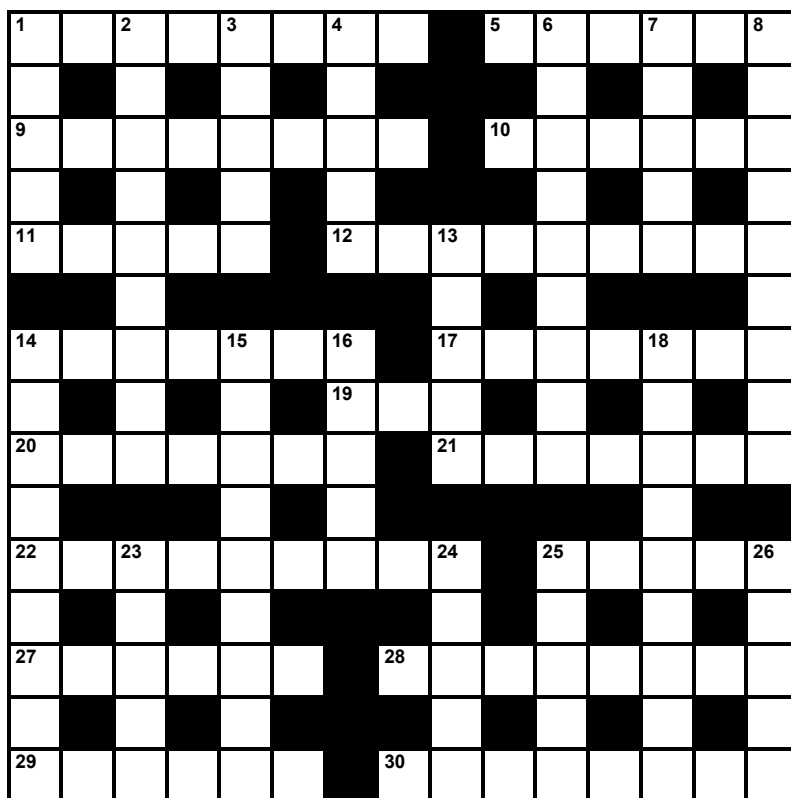
21 Carried on about birds coming back before digging starts (7)

22 Puts out uncommon description of man climbing after alien (9)

25 Leading batsman limps, having lost most of one limb (5)

27 One starts taking tranquillisers within reason as leading bowler (6)

28 Legal actions carried



3 around holding briefs, say (8)

29 Care about nothing as leading batsman (6)

30 Leading all-rounder has boisterous fun with Earl Kitchener in the beginning (8)

Down

1 He makes a lot of bread stealing note from a Goldman Sachs employee, perhaps (5)

2 One girl is bewildered by competing belief systems (9)

3 Casing for small inferno (5)

4 Cut up over multiple sclerosis tests (5)

6 Wastes ghastly eats after setter arrived back (9)

7 Material to insulate the last snowmen (5)

8 Did paint job and begged, following no time for relaxation (9)

13 Change in legal terminology (5)

14 Bird is pale, putting on first-class dress (5,4)

15 US city's cliched small funeral (4,5)

16 Agreements made with eyes shut to start with (5)

18 Idiot will amble around before stoppage in play? (9)

23 Poetry from Homer accelerates: I keep up to begin with (5)

24 Diving equipment from small island (5)

25 Fashionable pair of electricians stay here (5)

26 Throwing weapon made of small fruit (5)