

# PUZZLEBOMB SOLUTIONS

## ARITHM' & CLUES

ARITHM' & CLUES:  
by @outofthenorm2.

	A	N	T	S	Insects
+	R	A	I	D	Ransack
<hr/>					
H	O	A	R	D	Collection
<hr/>					
R	O	A	S	T	Cook
-	R	O	O	T	Source
<hr/>					
D	I	E	T	S	Fasts

	H	I	D	Concealed			
×	D	A	T	A	Information		
<hr/>							
T	H	R	E	A	D	String	
<hr/>							
	T	O	S	S	Chuck		
+	E	D	I	T	E	D	Changed
<hr/>							
E	R	A	S	E	D	Deleted	

A=6, D=4, E=3,  
H=1, I=7, N=9,  
O=2, R=5, S=0,  
T=8

	T	E	N	D	E	R	E	R	Gentler
+	T	A	T	O	O	E	D	Inked	
<hr/>									
H	I	S	T	O	R	I	A	N	Past-botherer

## APIS CLUES

These can all be followed by POINTS.

1. Domain, TLD, path - COMPASS
2. Bee food that is extracted in parts from spoiled creatine - NECTAR
3. Admit getting stuck into cheese cake - BROWNIE
4. Socialist leader hacked off following discussion - TALKING
5. Chew twigs there, losing energy and mixing with a bunch of losers? - WEIGHT WATCHERS

APIS CLUES: devised by @apisclues.

# PUZZLEBOMB

## SOLUTIONS

### WORD LOCK



WORD LOCK: by @derek\_couzens.

Press the buttons marked GENIUS, GETS, GRIPES, PRIEST and REPAST to light all the letters.

### TUBEWORD

TUBEWORD: by @stecks and @apaultaylor, with cryptic clues by @apiscues.

<sup>1</sup> T	O	R	U	<sup>2</sup> S	E	<sup>3</sup> S
<sup>4</sup> A	<sup>5</sup> N	E	<sup>6</sup> M	O	N	E
<sup>7</sup> R	E	<sup>8</sup> P	U	L	<sup>9</sup> S	E

Down entries:

- 1. TARTAR
- 2. SOLS
- 3. SEES
- 5. NEON
- 6. MUUMUU
- 8. PREP
- 9. SENSE

# PUZZLEBOMB SOLUTIONS

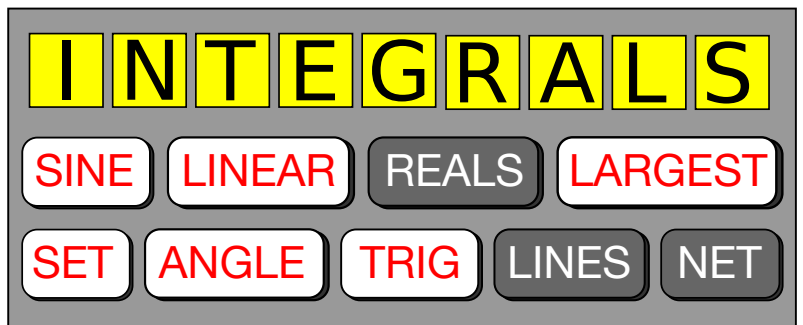
1	3	4	5	2	3
3	3	1	2	5	1
1	5	2	6	1	2
3	4	5	2	6	5
1	5	5	2	4	1
2	4	4	6	1	2

THE EX-FACTOR: by @christianp.

# THE EX-FACTOR

WORD LOCK:  
by @derek\_couzens.

# WORD LOCK



## APIS CLUES

These are all things that have been on the surface of the moon.

APIS CLUES: devised by @apisclues.

1. Production company's bad actor upset musicians - HAMMER
2. Beat back Johnny, perhaps with piece of sporting equipment - GOLF BALL
3. Three notes put together to make the Star-Spangled Banner, perhaps? - FLAG
4. Turn blade on her, terrible fate - FEATHER
5. Steps into clubs, perhaps, as required when under very little pressure? - SPACE SUIT

# PUZZLEBOMB

## SOLUTIONS

# CROSSWHERE

CROSSWHERE: by @outofthenorm2.

<sup>1</sup> 1	<sup>9</sup> 9	<sup>4</sup> 4	<sup>2</sup> 2
3	<sup>6</sup> 6	3	1
<sup>5</sup> 5	1	<sup>3</sup> 3	<sup>7</sup> 7
7	<sup>8</sup> 8	1	4

## APIS CLUES

These are all Rubik-branded puzzles or games.

1. Spot rooster eating lizard's head - CLOCK
2. Trick takes the snitch out of picture - ILLUSION
3. He's naked, holding something long and slithery - SNAKE
4. Mess up the fish - TANGLE
5. You into Colin Firth, perhaps? It's Platonic - CUBE

APIS CLUES: devised by @apisclues.

# PUZZLEBOMB

# SOLUTIONS

# GOMETRO

GEOMETRO: by  
@stecks and  
@apaultaylor.

BLOND IGNORED; BARK, YELP, MEW  
London Bridge; Wembley Park  
NETTLES & A CHAPEL; RARE TERN STEW  
Elephant & Castle; Warren Street  
DATING POND; CRUX FOR DISCO  
Paddington; Oxford Circus

RIP FUNKY BRAS; KNOT HOGTIES NUNS  
Finsbury Park; South Kensington  
EEL MIND; TONER DEBTS  
Mile End; Bond Street

RAW ACNE DATA; JULIENNE'S COLD TWIN  
Canada Water; Willesden Junction  
STREWN ITEMS; WATCH IT, I'M MR UK FOREIGN SECRETARY  
Westminster; Cutty Sark for Maritime Greenwich

CHRONIC GRASS; SEQUESTER ECLAIR  
Charing Cross; Leicester Square  
SHH, SHE'S BURPED; PLOVER LOTTERIES (not in 2015)  
Shepherd's Bush; Liverpool Street

FROST DART; TOTING LETHAL GIN  
Stratford; Notting Hill Gate  
GET, EAT SALAD; LOTUS RACER  
Aldgate East; Earl's Court

These stations are both on the

JUBILEE LINE

NORTHERN LINE

BAKERLOO LINE

PICCADILLY LINE

CENTRAL LINE

OVERGROUND

RIVERBOAT SERVICES

NORTHERN LINE

CENTRAL LINE (not in 2015)

CENTRAL LINE

DISTRICT LINE

These sets of lines  
meet only at

**W**ATERLOO

**H**OLBORN

**I**MPERIAL WHARF

**T**OTTENHAM COURT ROAD

**E**ALING BROADWAY

## APIS CLUES

These are all  
lilies (by  
name, if not  
biologically.)

1. Rebel leader about to retreat for Buxton, perhaps - WATER
2. Unfaithful sportsman to tap queen - TIGER
3. Calm games expert - PEACE
4. Singer distributing heavenly food around party - MADONNA
5. Inundate a politician with points at the start - SWAMP

APIS CLUES: devised by @apisclues.

# PUZZLEBOMB

# SOLUTIONS

## #CHERYLSSWEETS

#CHERYLSSWEETS: by @christianp.

There are 100 sweets in the bag, and 4 of them are red. Hannah arrived on bus number 825.

Here is the table of possible solutions:

If there are  $n$  sweets,  $r$  of which are red, the probability of drawing two red sweets is  $(n \times r) / ((n-1) \times (r-1))$ .

Greyed out squares indicate that the value of  $n$  given by this equation would not result in a probability of the form  $1/k$ , where  $k$  is a bus number, for that number of red sweets.

Albert's first statement means there can't be 10 or 11 red sweets, as then Bernard might know; then, since there must be 4 or 15 sweets, and thus Bernard knows which, it must be the third equation, and  $n = 100$ .

No. of red sweets in the bag

4 10 11 15

$$n^2 - n - 3080 = 0$$

$n = 56$

$$n^2 - n - 7140 = 0$$

$n = 85$

$$n^2 - n - 9900 = 0$$

$n = 100$

$$n^2 - n - 1260 = 0$$

$n = 36$

$$n^2 - n - 2070 = 0$$

$n = 46$

$$n^2 - n - 2970 = 0$$

$n = 55$


## APIS CLUES

These words are all legal, but unplayable, in Scrabble.

APIS CLUES: devised by @apisclues.

1. Brief nap after Italian food - that's glamour - PIZZAZZ
2. Mock GNVQ, perhaps - it's being declared unsuitable - DISQUALIFICATION
3. Basketball player perhaps has skill, but it's a worthless little thing - KNICKKNACK
4. Beginning to show alopecia? It's not to be emphasised - STRESSLESSNESS
5. Pulp record could be number one again? - RAZZMATAZZ

# PUZZLEBOMB

# SOLUTIONS

## SPLIT IT

SPLIT IT: by @stecks, inspired by bit.ly/cpsequence  
All the sequences have the same average value (4).

1	3	5	7	7
5	6	4	2	6
4	7	6	4	5
3	4	5	3	2
2	1	4	3	1

My pig-house made from soft wood - Enterprise chief engineer's hosiery is avoiding him in large quantities

THIS CORK STY - THIRTY SOCKS SHIRK SCOTTY

Relaxed Swede can't understand why cars can't perceive axis

EASY SVEN SAYS EVEN VANS SEE Y

Transport announcers encountered mean dancer's to-do list

TRAIN TANNOYS RAN INTO NASTY ANTON'S IN-TRAY

## ADO RUN AROUND

ADO RUN AROUND: by @stecks, help from @apaultaylor

## APIS CLUES

Here are five cryptic crossword clues. You must solve the clues, then find the connection between the answers.

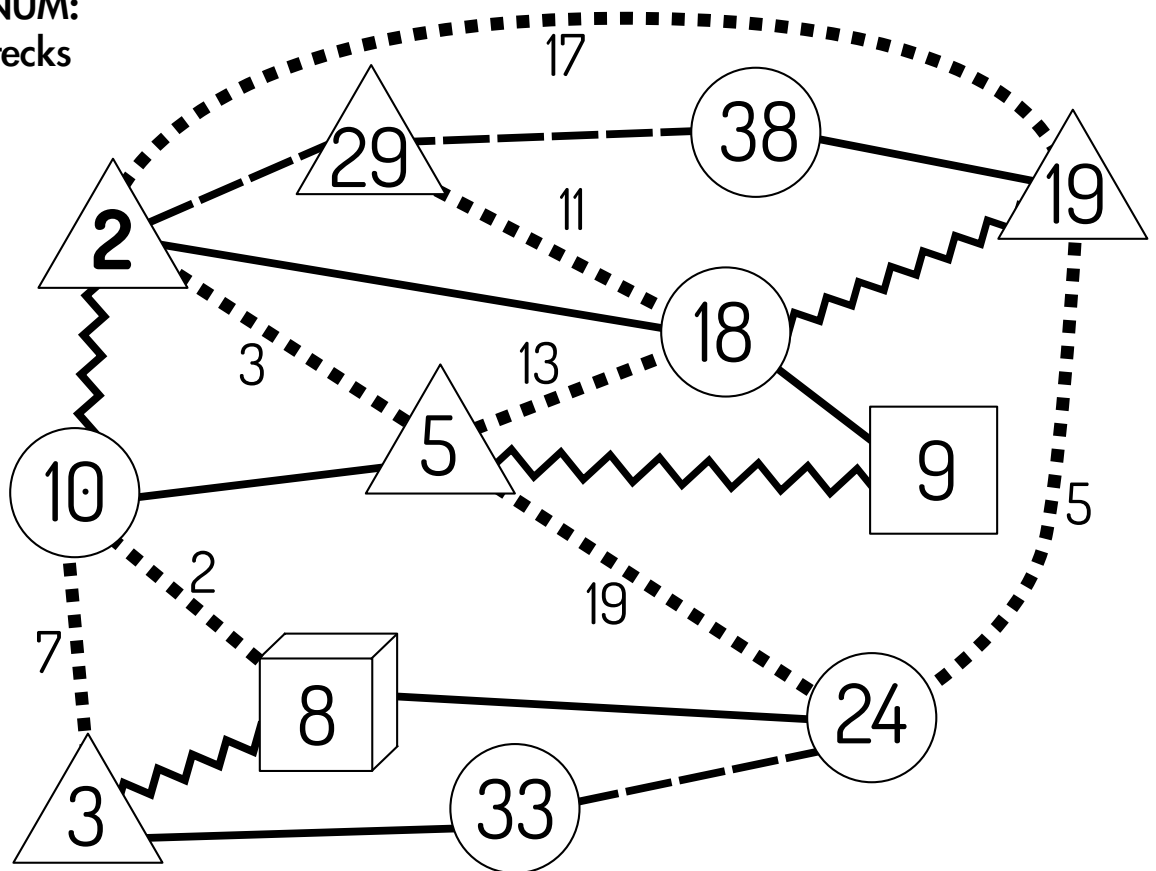
1. Soil Association start to get into their silly ideas, initially having kept out - EARTH
2. Last daub on toilet door: 1 out of 4. Write with a computer and it could be A+ - BLOOD TYPE
3. When stone tools were first used, Penny smashed a cello about with pointless flint core - PALEOLITHIC
4. Place where one goes after the end? - ZONE
5. Drunk either side of lunch, sangria is paradise - SHANGRI-LA

APIS CLUES: devised by @apisclues.

# PUZZLEBOMB SOLUTIONS

## ZYGONUM

ZYGONUM:  
by @stecks



## APIS CLUES

These are all associated with the colour blue.

1. Nervous about first tryst without charge - NEUTRAL
2. Viral infection lately starting to appear in fish - COLD
3. Thug regressing to his childish state? - BOY
4. Make pimp repent herb - PEPPERMINT
5. Attempt to eat duck, like Dave? - TORY

APIS CLUES: devised by @apisclues.

PUZZLEBOMB: assembled by @stecks.





# PUZZLEBOMB

# SOLUTIONS

4	3	1	2	1	4	2	3	3	2	4	1	2	1	3	4
2	1	4	3	3	2	1	4	1	4	3	2	4	3	2	1
1	2	3	4	2	3	4	1	4	1	2	3	3	4	1	2
3	4	2	1	4	1	3	2	2	3	1	4	1	2	4	3
3	2	4	1	2	1	3	4	4	3	1	2	1	4	2	3
1	4	3	2	4	3	2	1	2	1	4	3	3	2	1	4
4	1	2	3	3	4	1	2	1	2	3	4	2	3	4	1
2	3	1	4	1	2	4	3	3	4	2	1	4	1	3	2
2	1	3	4	4	3	1	2	1	4	2	3	3	2	4	1
4	3	2	1	2	1	4	3	3	2	1	4	1	4	3	2
3	4	1	2	1	2	3	4	2	3	4	1	4	1	2	3
1	2	4	3	3	4	2	1	4	1	3	2	2	3	1	4
1	4	2	3	3	2	4	1	2	1	3	4	4	3	1	2
3	2	1	4	1	4	3	2	4	3	2	1	2	1	4	3
2	3	4	1	4	1	2	3	3	4	1	2	1	2	3	4
4	1	3	2	2	3	1	4	1	2	4	3	3	4	2	1

# META DOKU

METADOKU:  
by @stecks  
and @paultaylor,  
based on an idea  
by @standupmaths

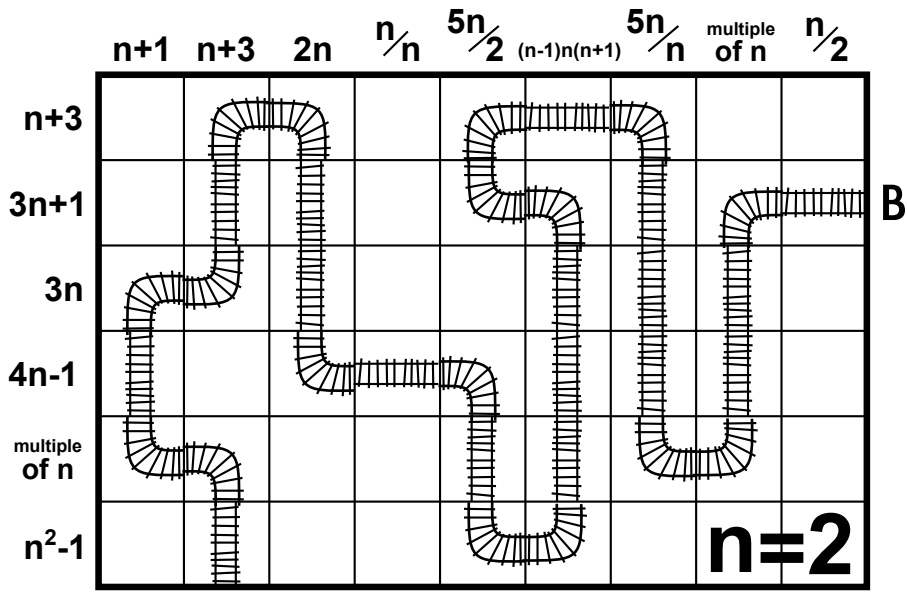
## APIS CLUES

These are  
all MONKEY  
ASTRONAUTS!

1. One who works with dough taking direction from another? - BAKER
2. Giant pig twisting round to eat tail (also twisted) - GOLIATH
3. Competent to take part in a blessing - ABLE
4. With a small change, 3 retweet a prince - ALBERT
5. Hey - Richard's a fellow of most excellent fancy - YORICK

APIS CLUES: devised by @apisclues.

# PUZZLEBOMB SOLUTIONS



## BRAIN TRACKS

BRAIN TRACKS:  
by @stecks  
and @apaultaylor

ACROSS STICKS: by @christianp

REHAB  
HOMBRE  
OUTMATCH  
MATCHBOX  
BESMIRCH  
IBEX

FERN  
EMULSIFICATION  
CLUE  
UNCLE  
NEEDFUL  
DAMN

VALE  
AFTERLIVES  
SATE  
TAILS  
LAVATORY  
YELL

## ACROSS STICKS

## APIS CLUES

These are all patron saints of brewing or beer.

1. Girl in drinking establishment twice has arrogance cut short - BARBARA
2. Two leopards eating a Roman Emperor - FLORIAN
3. Good king's lances broken in regular weaponry exercises - WENCESLAS
4. Saint Bernard's head on one side - BONIFACE
5. Lucky to lose extremities - that's gospel - LUKE

APIS CLUES: devised by @apisclues.

# PUZZLEBOMB

**C**R**Y**S**T**A**L** fortune-teller's device  
**B**U**C**K**Y** made of 60 Carbon atoms  
**H**A**R**D no-nonsense tactics  
**P**I**N** arcade game  
**R**O**L**L**E**R type of pen  
**H**I**G**H tall glass  
**D**I**S**C**O** covered in tiny mirrors  
**W**R**E**C**K**I**N**G demolition tool  
**C**A**N**N**O**N make a splash?  
**G**O**A**L sport for the blind

**E****Y****E** observe  
**H**A**V**E **A** enjoy yourself  
**M**E**A**T type of sub  
**H**A**N**D foul in soccer  
**T**R**A**C**K** 90s mouse alternative

SURPRISING EVENT = CURVEBALL

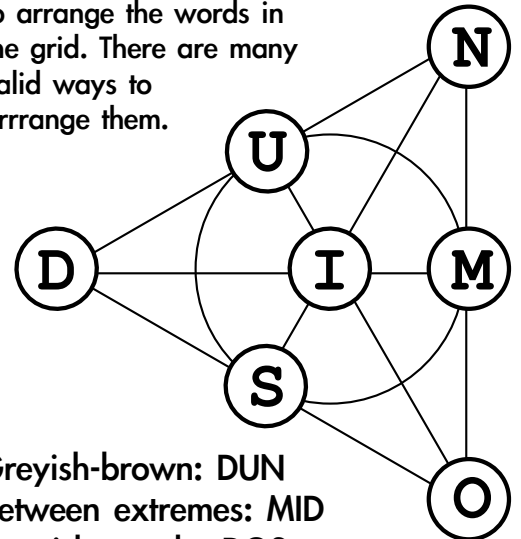
## QUIZBALL

QUIZBALL:  
by @stecks

PLANE WORD: by @stecks & @christianp

## PLANE WORD

Here is one possible way to arrange the words in the grid. There are many valid ways to arrange them.



Greyish-brown: DUN  
 Between extremes: MID  
 Spanish couple: DOS  
 French accord: OUI  
 Dreaded abbreviation: MON

Extra terms: SIN and SUM

## APIS CLUES

These are all one letter away from a word for stone.

1. Ice cream, perhaps, after second cake - SCONE
2. Dishonourable bunny? - BOUNDER
3. Wine present in ad-hoc Kahlúa - HOCK
4. Beg for forest loving to get started - GROVEL
5. One with no toes, perhaps, spun record; blob got into it, dancing - POBBLE

APIS CLUES: devised by @apisclues.

# PUZZLEBOMB SOLUTIONS



**Encoding Methods**

- GRMANAA - Anagram
- ONGIRRDEER - Reordering
- FDHVDUVKLIW - Caesar Shift
- VXEVLWXWLRQFLSKHU - Substitution Cipher
- RMVATRAEETR - Remove Alternate Letters
- LAEDLTESNY - Leave Odd Letters Only
- MSSNGVWLS - Missing Vowels
- LVNLYCNSNNTS - Leave Only Consonants

**Categories in this Quiz**

- DFONIOARDDNK - Food And Drink
- CCAPEZREKIRRS - Cracker Prizes
- GHFRUDWLRQV - Decorations
- FDUROV - Carols
- TLVSOADIM - Television And Film
- CTGREITIQI - Categories In This Quiz
- NMBRNS - Number Ones
- NCDNGMTHDS - Encoding Methods

**Christmas Carols**

- LINTESGNITH - Silent Night
- GMDHLROGOYINIDHRNNE - Ding Dong Merrily On High
- DZDBLQDPDQJHU - Away in a Manger
- MRBWRWKHZRUOG - Joy To The World
- OITEONFEHEE - O Little Town Of Bethlehem
- WIEHPEDWTHD - While Shepherds Watched
- TCMPNMDNGHTCLR - It Came Upon A Midnight Clear
- WTHRKNKS - We Three Kings

**Christmas Cracker Prizes**

- EEDTVRRISCEWR - Screwdriver Set
- ECERNNPEARLPHSI - Pencil Sharpener
- QDLQFOLSSHUV - Nail Clippers
- NHBULQJ - Keyring
- FRUEELNFS - Fortune Telling Fish
- TNPAIGAD - Tiny Playing Cards
- GNTPPRCLP - Giant Paper Clip
- BTTLPNR - Bottle opener

**Christmas Decorations**

- LENTIS - Tinsel
- SMTILTEOE - Mistletoe
- EDXEOHV - Baubles
- IDLUBOLJKWV - Fairy lights
- PPRHIS - Paper Chains
- CNYAE - Candy cane
- RTFCLSNW - Artificial Snow
- NGLNTPFTHTR - Angel on top of the tree

**Television and Film**

- WOCTRDHOO - Doctor Who
- MCRERETSUHSLAICS - Christmas Lectures
- GLHKDUG - Die Hard
- WKHJUQFK - The Grinch
- TEUESPEH - The Queen's Speech
- TEIHMRBFRCRSMS - The Nightmare Before Christmas
- THSNWMN - The Snowman
- HMLN - Home Alone

**Christmas Number Ones**

- ITSKCSHNDITYORTAMHOSWE - Do They Know It's Christmas?
- AMOYCLBHYSRI - Mary's Boy Child
- KDOOHOXMDK - Hallelujah
- FDQZHLALW - Can We Fix It?
- LNHIELVRRMIEPO - Long Haired Lover From Liverpool
- MSLTENWN - Mistletoe And Wine
- SMTHNSTPD - Somethin' Stupid
- MLLFKNTYR - Mull Of Kintyre

**Festive Food and Drink**

- INCPMEISE - Mince Pies
- NBAURERYDTTB - Brandy butter
- BXOHORJ - Yule log
- HJJQRJ - Eggnog
- PGIBAKT - Pigs in blankets
- BUSLSRUS - Brussels Sprouts
- RSTTRKY - Roast Turkey
- MLLDWN - Mulled Wine

In each set of eight related items, the first two are anagrams, the next two are Caesar shifted by three places (apparently Caesar's own preferred method - cipher given below for your reference); the next two have alternate letters removed (so FISH FINGERS would become FSFNES) and the final two have had only the vowels removed.

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ  
 DEF'GHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZABC

**QUIZMAS**

QUIZMAS: by @stecks and @apaultaylor

## ALI'S CLUES

These are all titles of Christmas episodes of QI.

1. After second promotion, freeview channel books notable arrival - ADVENT
2. Reffing in a red fez, football initially absent, marshalled elemental opposites - FIRE AND FREEZING
3. Fashionable turkey accompaniment - lose the stuffing, put duck egg inside - GROOVY
4. Carol and Stew alternately gobbling jellies - JINGLE BELLS
5. Leader of Klaxons (band) takes gamble on the French/German/American Santa - KRIS KRINGLE

ALI'S CLUES: devised by @gheizhwinder.