

LEARNER DRIVERS: PAST AND PRESENT

(Father)

My mum and dad said look here son
Driving lessons are a must
Just hop in, foot hard down
And give her bags of thrust

My dad said he learnt to drive
In nineteen forty-nine
In an old three ton truck
That had seen better times

An army truck no less my son
Left over from the war
My legs were all a tremble
About driving I wasn't sure

The corporal said that's the starter
The handbrake's just down here
Dip the clutch and move this stick
And you will be in gear

We must have been doing 10 mph
When the corporal said go faster
I thought he must be round the bend
This will end up in disaster

The corporal said take the next turn left
And don't forget to brake
But I didn't know which was which
Crash bang oh too late

To cut a very long story short
I really tried my best
And on my very second attempt
I passed my driving test.

(Son)

My driving instructor just pulled up
In a natty little car
I said I haven't driven before
He said alright we won't go far

All these lights and switched
More pedals on his side
He said if we hadn't got these mate
Many instructors would have died

I suppose he thought that was a joke
He didn't hear me laughing
My heart was in my mouth my friends
Because a bicycle we were passing

I looked at Kev his face was green
His knuckles have gone white
I said what caused that old mate?
He said it's something known as fright

He said your driving isn't that bad
It's the steering on the car
That's the biggest line he's ever shot
The biggest line by far

Kev hadn't got his seat belt clicked
I thought this is a funny situation
When I pointed it out to him
He said it's for quick evacuation

Turn left here, oh never mind
We'll just go round again
When I said left I meant down that road
Not up this muddy lane

Now put the thing in reverse
And turn right at the end
Don't get carried away with speed
I can see a nasty bend

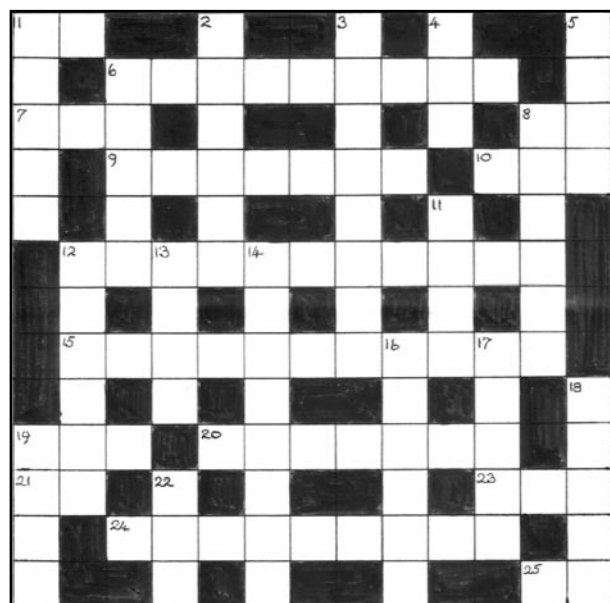
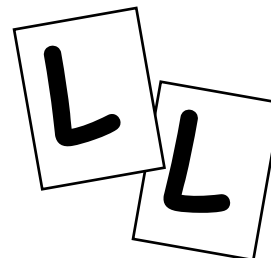
My instructor has gone bright red
I've got two wheels on the pavement
I'm only trying to cheer him up
With a bit of light entertainment

I've had a few more lessons now
And my instructor's reassured
He's laid well back his eyes are closed
And I do believe he snored

Not only is our Kev asleep
He also looks quite hot
I'll have him awake if it kills me
I will try an emergency stop

My test date has soon come round
So today I will try my best
But no doubt just like my dad
It will mean a second test!

M SHEPHERD



JUNE CROSSWORD BY ALISA

ACROSS

- 1 Beside (2)
- 6 Metal worker (9)
- 7 Curve (3)
- 8 Be (2)
- 9 The white sort grow by the 338 (7)
- 10 Ancient (3)
- 12 See 23
- 15 See 23
- 19 Colour (3)
- 20 Marcham baker 1935-54 (7)
- 21 Alternatively (2)
- 23 12 South Abingdon pub (3,5,6)
- 23 15 North Abingdon pub (3,6,5)
- 24 Funny men (9)
- 25 Vermouth (2)

DOWN

- 1 Committee (5)
- 2 Prawns (6)
- 3 Marcham Society's logo (8)
- 4 Tree (3)
- 5 Unpopular plant (4)
- 6 Ghana's capital (5)
- 8 Coward's spirit (5)
- 11 Eager (4)
- 12 Overcome (6)
- 13 Female (4)
- 14 Instrument (8)
- 15 Kingdom (6)
- 17 Rotas (5)
- 18 Abingdon street (5)
- 19 Bird (4)
- 22 Male (3)

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