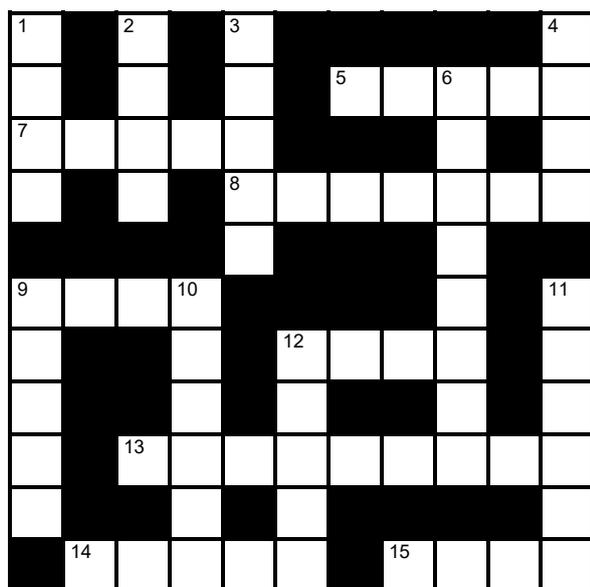


A British Puzzle

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Across

5 _____ drinking is the drinking of large amounts of alcohol in a very short space of time with the express purpose of getting drunk. (5)

7 Somebody who looks like the cat that got the _____ has a very self-satisfied look on their face from having obtained or achieved something of considerable value or worth. (5)

8 When something is handed to you on a silver _____ it is given to you without you having to make any effort to get it. (7)

9 To eat something extremely quickly and completely, as a ravenous animal might, is to _____ it down. (4)

12 To have egg on your

_____ is to be embarrassed or to look foolish in front of others. (4)

13 To speak or act extremely carefully or diplomatically, with great consideration for another person so as to avoid offence is to walk on _____. (9)

14 When you do things just to please someone else in the hope of getting them to like you or support you in your endeavours is to _____ favour with them. (5)

15 To weaken or dilute something so that it is less effective or forceful is to water it _____. (4)

Down

1 If somebody is able to take criticism or censure without it having any apparent

effect on them, we say that it's like water off a duck's _____. (4)

2 Something which is small _____ is of less importance than something else, or is of little significance. (4)

3 When you are afraid, excited, or cold, and the hairs on your skin stand on end producing bumps and giving you a ticklish, prickly feeling, you have goose _____. (5)

4 When something has gone _____ - shaped, it has gone badly wrong and is probably going to fail. (4)

6 To explain something very concisely and in very few words is to put it in a _____. (8)

9 If you feel awkward

or uncomfortable because of the situation you find yourself in, you are like a fish out of _____. (5)

10 If you have your _____ in the pie, then you have some active involvement in something. (6)

11 Different people like different things, and when one person likes something that another person dislikes we say that one man's meat is another man's _____. (6)

12 If you're very suspicious about someone or something, and you suspect that all is not as it should be or seems, you can say that it's _____. (5)