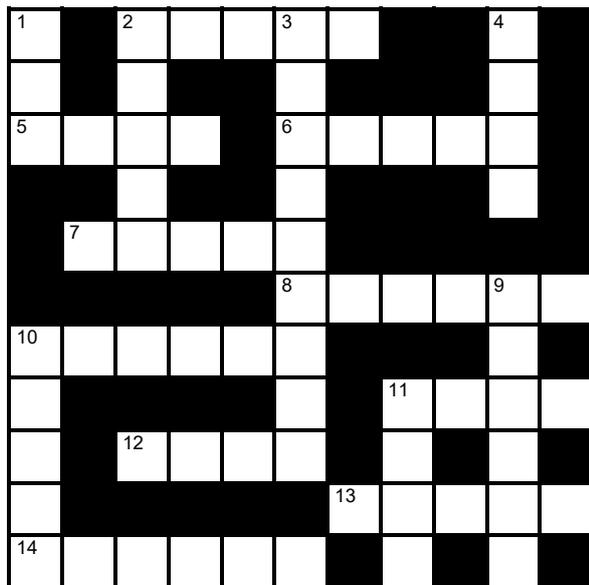


A British Puzzle

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Across

2 Someone or something what is very noticeable and conspicuous, but is nevertheless excluded from an activity or from a group is like _____ on a rock bun. (5)

5 When we bemoaned the fact that too _____ cooks spoil the broth, we are saying that there are too many people involved in a particular project and that is it being spoiled as a result. (4)

6 To go _____ the knife is to undergo some form of surgical procedure in a hospital. (5)

7 An unfair fight or contest where one side is much stronger than the other, and the weaker side has no chance of winning,

is referred to as a turkey _____. (5)

8 The big _____ is a person who is influential, important, the leader of a group, or the person in charge. (6)

10 To tell someone things that are patently nonsense, ridiculous, or false, to flatter them, is to give them banana oil. (6)

11 Someone who eats sparingly or very little is said to eat like a _____. (4)

12 To earn money to provide yourself and your family with a living is to bring _____ the bacon. (4)

13 If you make an unpleasant or difficult situation worse for another person, you are rubbing salt in the _____. (5)

14 A different _____ of fish is something which is completely different to that which you were talking about or considering. (6)

and nobody really cares about how you feel, you are likely to be told that it's _____ cheese. (4)

9 When somebody is no longer as young as they used to be and is showing signs of age, we say they are no _____ chicken. (6)

10 Actions performed, or words said which are designed to help people relax and open up in a possibly stressful social situation are intended to _____ the ice. (5)

11 When you _____ off steam, you release your emotions, particularly your anger, often verbally or through sudden and violent physical action. (4)

Down

1 If you are in a difficult and bothersome situation, you are in a _____. (3)

2 When somebody tells you something that you are extremely doubtful about, and you do not entirely believe them, you take it with a _____ of salt. (5)

3 Somebody who is as nutty as a _____ behaves as if they were crazy or insane. (9)

4 If you have no choice but to accept something as it is despite not liking it,