

## Part Six

Coming into the final straight in Part Six, **Stump-up** firstly requires you to recognise that a lot of the clues are British places, but not all of them, and then that they are all parts of the Boston (US) telephone dialling area in alphabetical order:

M74 service station	ABINGTON
agree	ACCORD
regency house in devon	ARLINGTON
county town	BEDFORD
we've already done this one!	BRAINTREE
arcade	BURLINGTON
administrative division in China	CANTON
where constable went to school	DEDHAM
Lancashire Golf Club	DUXBURY
Lady Isabel's Shame	EASY LYNN
Yorkshire town	HALIFAX
City on the Leine	HANOVER
On the south coast	HASTINGS
Norfolk market town	HINGHAM
<i>arrow to next but one</i>	HULL
London suburb	ISLINGTON
<i>other end of arrow</i>	KINGSTON
Came from <i>arrow to Hingham</i>	LINCOLN

--- a chunk is missing here ---

Yorkshire Town	WAKEFIELD
Abbey	WALTHAM
Protect against use	WEARGUARD
Wellington	WELLESLEY
Above the sea	WESTON
Fashion designer	WESTWOOD
Dorset town	WEYMOUTH
Do I contradict myself?	WHITMAN
County Town	WINCHESTER
Abbey	WOBURN

The dialling code in question is **781**. "Stump-up", by the way, is a reference to Boston in Lincolnshire - the cathedral of St Botolph is known as "Boston Stump" and the cut-off text at the top of the first image is presumably talking about a [ph]one icon.

For **Chichester**, you have to reconstruct the crossword. This sounds very hard but is actually not that difficult – you do have all of the answers, after all:

	1		2		3				4		5						
	A		N		S				W		E						
6	R	E	G	I	M	E	N	7	S		8	W	H	I	R	R	
		O		N		N		E				I			S		
9	U	N	D	E	R	S	O	L	D		10	S	T	A	T	S	
		S		S		E		E		11	S		E		W		
							12	A	V	A	L	A	N	C	H	E	
		13		14		15		A		A		I		I			
		16	U	N	I	N	T	E	N	T	I	O	N	A	L		
			M		K		H		G		N		G		E		
17	O	B	S	O	L	E	T	E	D								
		L		L		R		L		18	A		19	K		20	Y
21	F	E	R	A	L			22	D	I	A	G	H	I	L	E	V
		B		Y				S		A		N		A			
23	N	E	V	E	R			24	S	T	E	V	E	D	O	R	E
		E		V						E		S			N		

“Chichester” and “Henry the Black” both refer to circumnavigation, and the “peri” in the file name is short for “perimeter”. If you read round the outside of the grid you get “ANSWER SEVEN SEVEN FOUR”. So that’s **774** to add to our nearly-complete list of triplets.

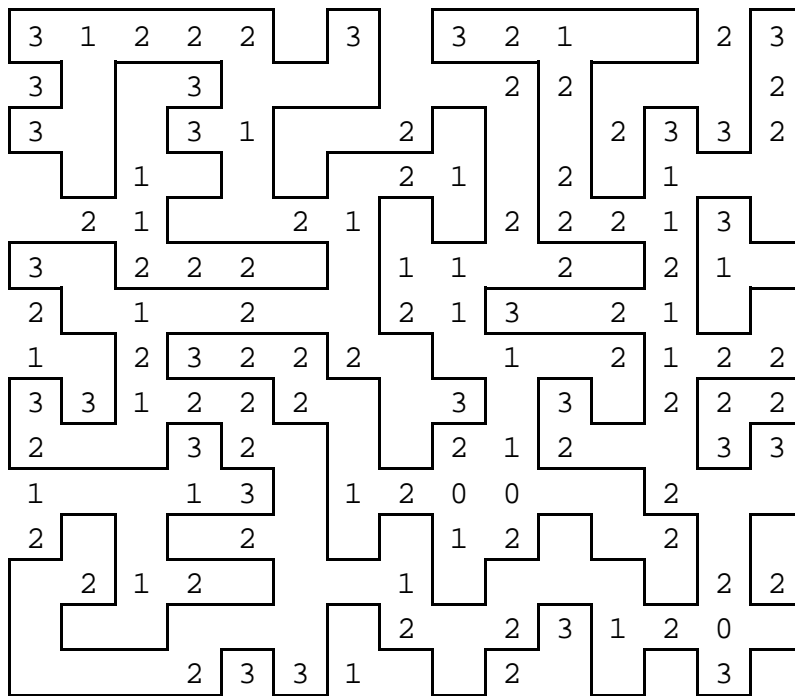
And so we move on to the last puzzle: **Just Answer the Question**. This turns out to be a bit longer than you might think.

In all that gibberish, there is only one actual question (as distinct from strange statements and instructions): “What do you call an angry ixodida?” The answer to that is “a cross tick”.

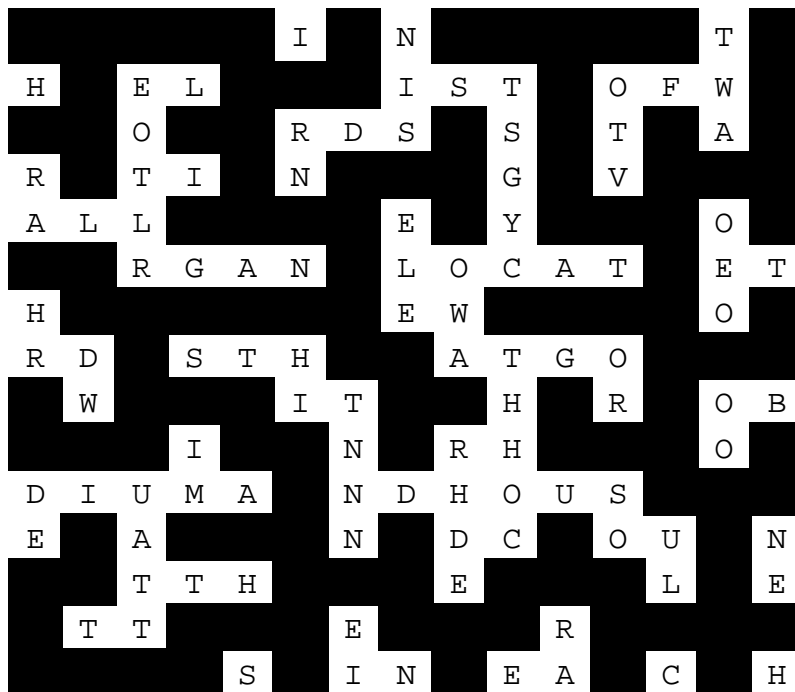
An acrostic is where the initial letters of something give another message. And treating it all as an acrostic, we find an instruction to “**TAKE EVERY FOURTH WORD**” (shown below in bold) that when acted upon (the words are marked in italics) tells us to “Take key stream in square grid. Remove digits four and greater. Solve as Slitherlink. Place over the wordsearch and read the letters that lie outside the loop. This is an extra puzzle which gives the final triplet”.

**T**ake the lost yale key from the nearby *stream* and put it *in* the lock.  
**A**dd *square* numbers to puzzle *grid* on diagonals.  
**K**indly *remove* the three symmetrical *digits*.  
**E**xponentiate seven and *four*.  
**E**xtract nouns, adjectives *and* verbs.  
Verbs are *greater* than adverbs.  
**E**asily *solve* the trivia puzzle as knowing who directed *Slither* turns out to *link* everything together.  
**R**ussian *place* names help.  
**Y**ou *over* estimate everything.  
**F**ind *the* missing seven letter *word* and use to *search* Google.  
**O**ver time *and* space we can *read* cosmic mysteries.  
**U**nderneath *the* doormat you'll find *letters* giving answers.  
**R**emember *that* the compliers sometimes *lie*.  
**T**he biggest number *outside* the matrix is *the* largest in the *loop*.  
**H**elp me with *this* strange conundrum.  
**W**hat *is* another name for an angry ixodida?  
**O**ne *extra* hint: solve the *puzzle* giving three primes *which* commute.  
**R**emember, calculus *gives* the date of *the* most important cup *final*.  
**D**iscard the pythagorean *triplet*.

So we're not there yet. Treating the digits as described (helpfully you already had to put them in a grid to solve Part Five) leads to the following:



Again, “Slitherlink” is a moderately well known form of puzzle and you can find help on solving them on the Internet. Colouring-in the enclosed space and placing it over the wordsearch grid results in:



This contains the message “In the list of words starting ‘valley, organ’ locate the words that go with ‘robin’, ‘rhodium’ and ‘house’ and count the letters in each”.

The words in question are “Ragged”, “Humidor” and “Front”, giving **675**.