

*Listener Crossword Setters' Dinner  
Sheffield, 12<sup>th</sup> March 2011*

**Commentary**

Remarkably, given that some of the questions were exceptionally difficult, all twelve tables succeeded in producing a perfect set of answers. The result of the quiz, therefore, depended on the quality of the pictorial Spoonerism clues for a drink of the table's choice.

Unfortunately, it is not realistic to reproduce the artistry shown by each table here but the elements of the drink and corresponding Spoonerism follow: -

**Table 1**

SHEFFIELD STOUT = STEFF (Steffi no I) + FIELD + SHOUT  
(Jan, the co-organiser of this superb dinner, explained that this is a local drink consisting of black beer and lemonade!)

**Table 2**

MOJITO = HOE + MEET + O

**Table 3**

HARVEY WALL BANGER = BAR + WII + FALL + HANGER

**Tables 5 & 9**

ZINFANDEL = FIN + SANDAL

**Table 6**

BENEDICTINE = TENNER + DICK + BEAN

**Tables 7 & 8**

Tea Leaves refuses to give full details of these two tables' submissions on grounds of good taste! Suffice it to say that they both chose BITTER SHANDY and had different ways of represent BANDY but the same way to show the first element of their answer!!

**Table 12**

BRISTOL CREAM = CRYSTAL + BREAM

By the very narrowest of margins, the leading three positions were: -

**3<sup>rd</sup>, Table 10 (Debby, Denis, Eileen & Neil Aspland: Philip Marlow: Alf & Andy Mullins: Max Taylor)**

BORDEAUX = DOOR + BOW

**2<sup>nd</sup>, Table 4 (Jeannie & Peter Chamberlain: Trevor Crowther: Hazel & Ian Fells: Don & Sue Manley: Julian West)**

DRAMBUIE = BRAM + DEWEY

It should be noted that the drawings were exquisite – the likeness to Bram Stoker was brilliant and the representation of the Dewey System through the crossword section of a library was masterly. One of the power cuts during the meal did, however, reveal the use of an LCD screen presumably to find a picture of Mr Stoker!

**1<sup>st</sup>, Table 11 (Paul & Peter Byrne: Charles & Shirley Curran: Roddy Forman: Glyn Hinde: James Leonard: Nicholas Maxwell)**

CHIANTI = TEE + ANNE + KEY

Once again the drawings were excellent although not quite up to the standard shown by Table 4, however, they were in glorious Technicolor as a result of the set of coloured pencils in Shirley's handbag!!

This meant that Table 11 received the bronze casket filled with sweets... well almost, the other co-organiser made his only blemish of a brilliant day by forgetting to bring along the casket! With great presence of mind, he borrowed a bronze urn for the night from a local hostelry!! This proved to be a master stroke as it was bigger than the casket and on this occasion the distribution of sweets to the other tables was accompanied by a demand for money with menaces by Mr Forman!!!

The cause was an excellent one – a collection for the Christchurch earthquake at the suggestion of our New Zealand correspondent Phi (Paul Henderson).