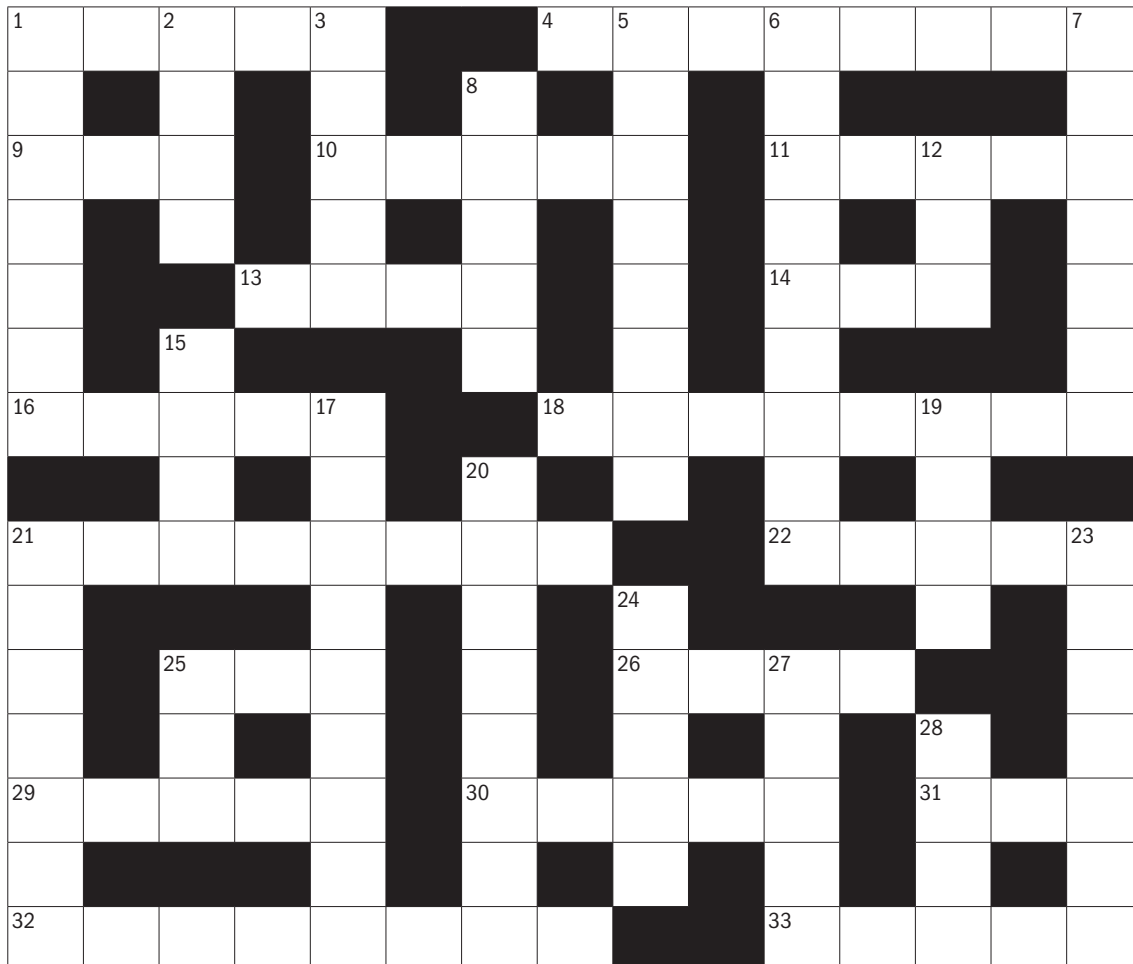


# Cyberspace cryptic crossword

As part of the World Wide Web's tricennial celebrations, put your wetware processors through their paces with this Internet-and-computer-themed cryptic crossword compiled by **Ian Randall**



**Ian Randall** is a science writer based in Cambridge, UK. He previously worked at **15 down**, where he left his sticky fingerprints on the display case containing the computer mentioned in the clue for **21 down** and **9 across**. Ian inherited his love of crosswords from his grandfather.

Answers will be published in the April issue of *Physics World*. Please note that this crossword is just for fun; there are no prizes.

## Across

- 1** Ubiquitous pointer from Mickey (5)  
**4** Conflagration goes up against bricks to protect computer user (8)  
**9** See 21 down  
**10** One piece of winter sports equipment, speaking drunkenly, represents characters (5)  
**11** Military physics detected in Find My iPhone icon (5)  
**13** No-strings alternative for digital communications acronym (4)  
**14** Offline activities can be found in their laptop (1,1,1)  
**16** Escape drive with Bond car feature (5)  
**18** Malicious online coder wears dark headgear (8)  
**21** Files that need interpreting found around barycentres (8)  
**22** Telephone replacement is in the sky, perhaps? (5)  
**25** Vital computer circuitry made from bits of carbon and plutonium (1,1,1)  
**26** Bid website created when bishop leaves rebuilt abbey (4)  
**29** Chatting with the face seen in superno jingoism (5)  
**30** Install video player to accompany army (5)  
**31** Rock formation has anonymity in store (3)  
**32** Excited, anxious feeling when streaming online thriller (8)  
**33** Short software exhibitions, e.g. shareware, freemium services or beta versions (5)

## Down

- 1** Damaging download puts conflict into gender (7)  
**2** Twisted ruse is beneath the system administrator (4)  
**3** Digital communication has scrambled Amile (5)  
**5** First things, making up WWW, HTML and URL (8)  
**6** Peripheral devices assembled from aural parts (9)  
**7** Byte, nibble, bit – the first, relatively (7)  
**8** Muddled coins all over your desktop (5)  
**12** Learner quits US computer manufacturer to go back on his words (3)  
**15** Could Web have originated within nicer neighbourhood? (4)  
**17** A precious shade in the bad magic phrase: 40E0D0 (9)  
**19** Informal greeting: 01101000, 01101001, 01111001, 01100001 (4)  
**20** Online community devotees heard to acquire assents with meditative state (8)  
**21** and **9 across** Notable NeXT machine user hears fiery rocket stages on downwind slope (7-3)  
**23** Increasingly professional online diversions that French art harbours (7)  
**24** Internet award like mallard toes (5)  
**25** A big cheese like Cook, Dorsey or Zuckerberg (1,1,1)  
**27** Did basic maths to get connected in online network (5)  
**28** Something in your online shopping cart? It's reorder time! (4)