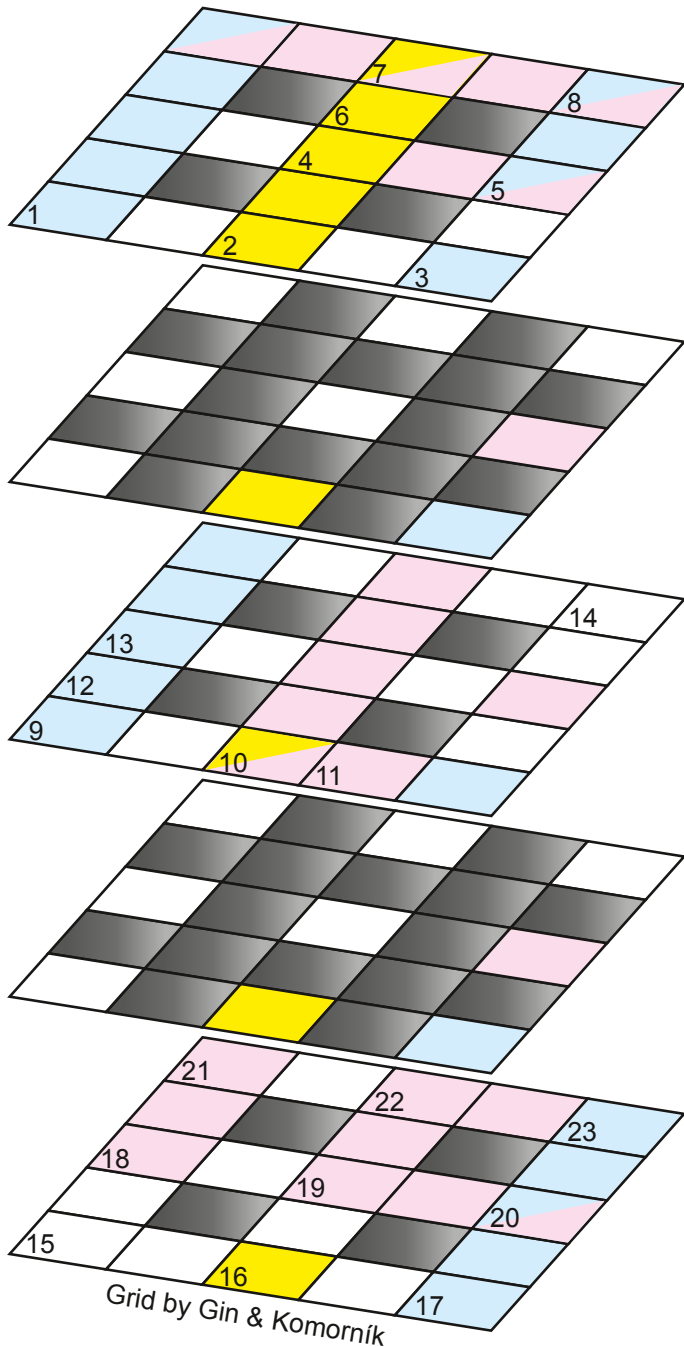


World Championship Lunch 2026 by Gin & Komorník

A puzzle for those attending the Prizewinners' Lunch at Miller & Carter, Marlbrook on 23rd May 2026, with grid by Gin and Komorník, who also set the clues and to whom recriminations should be addressed – he's over *there*.

Entries in cells shaded blue suggest one element, those in pink-shaded cells suggest another, while those shaded yellow and unclued complete the theme. You will need to identify a nickname, a musician, a celebrated polymath, a former foreign head of state, a 1971 film, an archaeologist, two actresses, then a sort of clay stream which follows the two thematic elements. Clues are numbered in alphabetical order of their solutions.



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|----|--|----|---|
| 1 | 6to-2,4d,19ba With art, primarily, Cranberry clobbered me – I'm really stupid (4-4) | 14 | 20ba,18up Ill-directed throw – seize energy, going great guns (9) |
| 2 | 23to First signs Amoeba's to handle August – news hearing which many turn to prayer (5) | 15 | 8ba An Osmond may empty Sports Hall when heard going on first (5) |
| 3 | 11ba-2,10aw London auctioneer making first of bids on hock... (6) | 16 | 8to A Welsh person with joint love -- North <i>and</i> South capture Guinevere's heart! (5) |
| 4 | 11ba-2,10d,16aw,22ac-2 ...for which volume is considerable? (4,5) | 17 | 8d After nearly a month, I accepted Caesar's daughter (5) |
| 5 | 1ac What we owe Absolution for dabbest handling? (5) | 18 | 12aw-2,13ac Soluble thallium (not much needed) – that will do for you (6) |
| 6 | 1aw Andie, essentially unequalled solver, heads to get trophy – extremely fine stuff is this (5) | 19 | 14to French city that is where many litres are downed (5) |
| 7 | 21ac Italian lake "something tiresome"? Quite the reverse (5) | 20 | 14ba Guys after convenience picked up some light (5) |
| 8 | 21to Rise of Gerontius positive – nor is easily to be dismissed (3,2) | 21 | 7d Setter's in midst of cameras – he communicates by gesture (5) |
| 9 | 21up Spirited Mrs Potter? (5) | 22 | 5ba We inform Shark "Not hard, number requiring rotation" (5) |
| 10 | 9aw Boatman's last to board galleon, oddly becoming fifth man in space (5) | 23 | 15up Penny gained maturity – as frequently called for (5) |
| 11 | 9ac Presentation of World-beating gridfill finally with award (5) | 24 | 15ac White American duck coop up to Spooner (5) |
| 12 | 20up,5ba-2 Saint Nora on vacation after turning heel (6) | 25 | 3d,17aw-2 Anne is back home for some mid-August racing (6) |
| 13 | 20ba-3,19aw,22ac-2 I felt that in hard-topped Kate? (6) | | |