

WEEKENDS

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 ■ IF YOU wish to talk with the editor Cath Fouracre about a letter or a story you

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 ■ COMMUNITY notices need to be in by 9am on Wednesday. We will return to a Thursday 9am deadline after January 12.

What does 2012 hold?

ASTROLOGER Patsy Bennett shared her predictions for 2012 and while the world would not come to an end, the world as we know it, will.



Patsy Bennett

"2012 brings us the chance to reach our true potential as we see an old way of life fall away and the seeds of a new one emerge; there are going to be eye-openers, revelations and disclosures," Patsy said.

"Deeply ingrained social and psychological structures will be under pressure to update during 2012 as a new structure struggles to emerge."

February 22 would be relevant to Australia's image and its inhabitants in relation to health and prosperity.

"Developments around that time will have a connection with water or resources. This could represent the next stage in the implementation - or the opposition to - the carbon tax."

Globally, we'll need to adapt to financial circumstances. There will be further civil unrest or uprisings - Patsy said June was a real hotspot in this regard.

"Adaptation within society will be necessary to account for the groundswell of opinion - not only in the streets, but also due to the relatively new social networking facilities and electronic information services," she said.

"Hotspots next year will be the

Middle East and possibly even Europe."

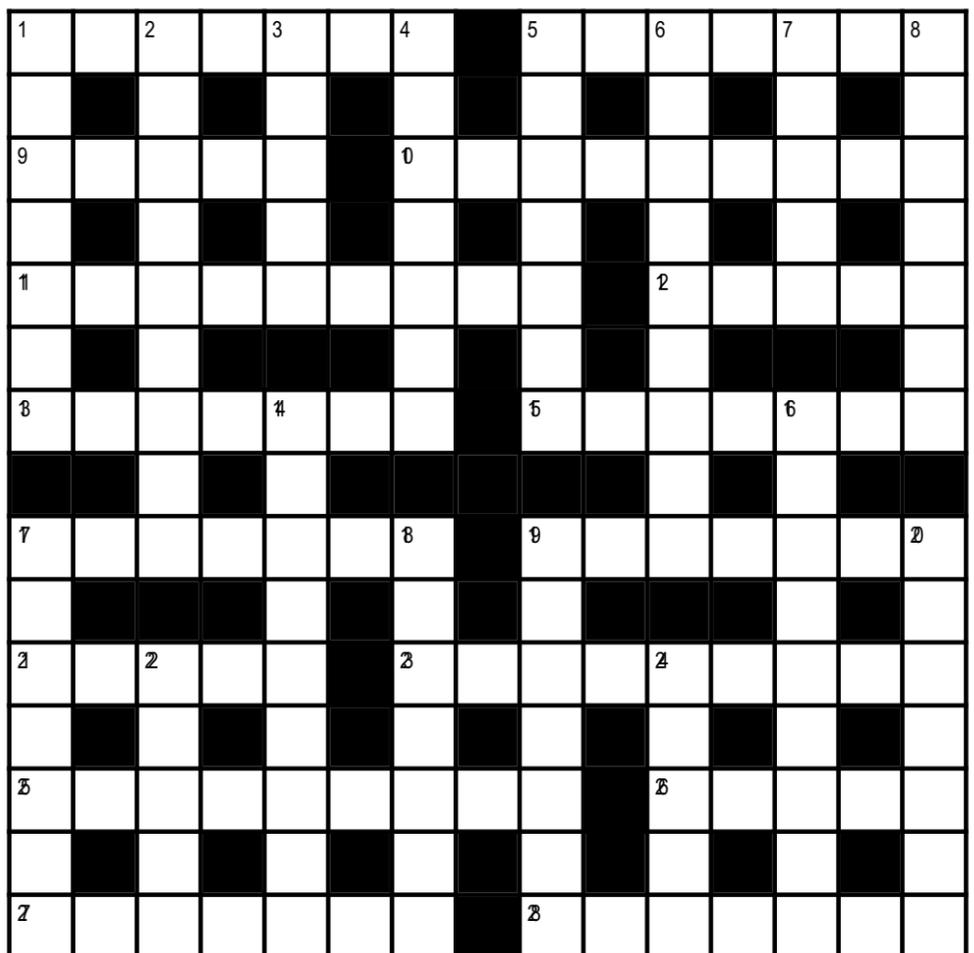
March saw opportunities for peaceful solutions both to world and personal problems and June could see the necessity for a more confrontational approach to problem-solving.

"A rare Venus transit early in June in conjunction with a lunar eclipse will see important events come to light, especially in connection with a cycle which began in 2004.

"In 2012 you'll see developments associated with events stemming from 2004."

APN astrologer Patsy Bennett lives in Byron Bay.

**Ruggles
Crossword 225**



ACROSS

- 1 Eased credit squeeze and screwed (7)
- 5 Capital asset can be very useful (7)
- 9 Ratbag loses his head in the water (5)
- 10 Good taste dictates no parking in Lourdes (9)
- 11 Married to the family home? (9)
- 12 Know Scottish spirit explained on paper (5)
- 13 Fellow standing for office resting after election? (7)
- 15 Strange article on Isle of Man race even stranger caused hysterics (7)
- 17 Drink dad finishes with a straw (4,3)
- 19 Africander loses colour becoming general (7)
- 21 Get cracking with success around work (3,2)
- 23 Make a scene when applause ends a concert (9)
- 25 Security patently not suitable to be treated indulgently (9)
- 26 Get a new slant on a heavenly being (5)
- 27 Ask out ice-skaters - performance tells (7)
- 28 Dimwits take on notes (7)

DOWN

- 1 Habits, in general, assumed by humans (7)
- 2 Without notice, understated problem delegated (9)
- 3 No direction to get off course to do one's duty (5)
- 4 Quite the man about town and in a hurry (7)
- 5 TV lucre squandered and down the drain (7)
- 6 Pennies or pounds sufficient for the unemployed (9)
- 7 Cut off a slab (5)
- 8 Medal or other decoration afforded rank (7)
- 14 I'm sick of being hot under the collar (9)
- 16 Figure a square loosening up (9)
- 17 Academic when chorales, sadly, lose direction (7)
- 18 Tastes are satisfied as plate is dished up (7)
- 19 Outraged a day none turned up (7)
- 20 Teases those born in Leeds, maybe (7)
- 22 Not a lot involved in platonic set up causing consternation (5)
- 24 Jazz pianist loses it, here (5)

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