Prize Crossword

On 15 May, the University’s former Vice Chancellor, Emeritus Professor Gavin Brown AO FAA CorrFRSE, was awarded an honorary doctorate of science in a ceremony in the Great Hall.

The honour and his new role as Inaugural Director of the Royal Institution of Australia, based in Adelaide, has not stopped him compiling his devilish crosswords for S.A.M.

To celebrate the honour and to encourage puzzlers who strain their grey cells over the puzzles, a prize will be given for the first correct entry to be drawn out of the mailbag.

To make it fair to all, entries received will be opened on July 30 and must be mailed to: S.A.M Crossword, Room K6.06, Quadrangle A14, University of Sydney, NSW 2006. Happy solving!

The prize for this issue is a copy of Museum – the Macleays, their collections and the search for order. The book is so much more than a sumptuous coffee table piece with glorious photography by Robyn Stacey and fascinating text by Ashley Hay.

ACROSS
1 Simple mathematical skill – hard to acquire with 18? (14)
9 Expert challenger and reform advocate. (9)
10 Queen holds Asian dish for another ruler. (5)
11 Dysfunctional writer is welcomed back in old SA. (9)
12 Brackens, heather provide cover, doubly so. (9)
13 Referring to small stones in pattern assembled by Lasseter. (8)
15 Fizz opened and given to uncle. (6)
17 Overweight without a way of describing vigorous impact. (6)
19 Illegally take most of 24 and most of this whole enterprise. (8)
22 Text emperor delivers off the cuff with a sinister twist in the tail. (2,7)
23 How you arrived at 4 and 20 perhaps. (5)
24 Time period when part of clan was evicted may still generate fiery response. (5)
25 Preserved from long ago I throw up in unimaginative surroundings. (9)
26 Perhaps Peter advertises unproductive investment opportunities. (7,7)

DOWN
1 I’m poet’s help. She conjures up a devilish character. (14)
2 Wild female to smarm up over monster home. (7)
3 Fashionable secret, regularly producing no reaction. (5)
4 Window framing a Christian. (8)
5 Shows compassion with a hint of solace and a loving gesture. (6)
6 Indication of location of warning and assertion of consequence. (9)
7 Outperform with sly indication of pot. (7)
8 Destitution with Donald gone. (14)
14 10 crushed with sacred flower is by no means everlasting. (9)
16 “I am a fairy” – expression of hesitation or territorial rule? (8)
18 Famous incompetent? (7)
20 God cut short chaotic departure leaving semi-precious stone. (7)
21 He throws and drops coloured balls. (6)
23 Macho Irish envelop traditional Welsh assembly. (5)