

## ROLLING ALONG - SOLUTION TO LAST ISSUE'S PUZZLE

Like the characters in *Merrily We Roll Along*, half a dozen figures in this puzzle were to be seen at increasingly early points in their lives. Each of these figures appeared in the answer to both an Across and Down clue intersecting in the grid. The figure SWAN, for example, seen in ASWAN and SWANEE, was entered as CYGNET going Across, and EGG reading Down. The other figures:

BEE --> PUPA --> LARVA  
 KNIGHT --> SQUIRE --> PAGE  
 HOG --> SHOAT --> PIGLET  
 NAG --> MARE --> FOAL  
 OAK --> SAPLING --> ACORN

The unclued row spanning the grid features advice recurring in the *Merrily* score, but which solvers were cautioned to ignore: NEVER LOOK BACK (entered backwards, naturally).

### Clue Notes

Across 1. "egrets I erred: anagram 9. a + s + wan 10. (ezr)a + lb. + e.e. 13. s(+age)ly 15. "sorer" homopone 16. (-X)enas reversed 18. we(+ekn ["ken" anag.])ight 20. "ape" anag. 21. can...athletes initials 23. sur(+G)e 24. double definition 27. apprAISAl rev. 31. double def. 32. N + FL 33. ho(+gar)t + h(abitat) 37. "dine" rev. 39. "Sagan" rev. 41. a(-s)(+Nora)k 42. à la + ska 43. "H or l" + zon(-e) 44. "croaking" changing R to L

Down 1. "car sank" anag. 2. r(+Y)an 3. sw(+A)ne + E 4. "nice" homo. 5. sty + X 6. "ole" rev. 7. "ro-(g)ue" anag. 8. "beat" homo. 11. k[("thing" anag.) + L]ey 12. "peeks" homo. 14. "our soul" anag. around "IQ" 15. sho[-(bulle)t]gun 17. br(+E)r 19. "me" rev. + ail 20. to + V.I.P. rev. 22. "has base" anag. (past tense in clue is erratum) 25. "con" homo. 26. (shu)n + odd + "gin" anag. 27. "lamina" rev. 28. S(+N)AG 30. so + a + K 34 wiRE RIGht 35. (-m)oral 36. "lash" anag. 38 IIZA Nailed rev. 40. hAcKmAn

1	R	E	2	R	3	E	4	G	I	5	S	T	6	E	R	7	E	D	8	L
9	A	C	Y	G	N	E	T		10	A	L	11	P	U	12	P	A			
N		13	S	A	G	E	14	L	Y	15	S	O	A	R	E	R				
16	S	A	N	E	I	I	X	P	17	B	G	O	K	V						
A	18	W	19	E	E	S	Q	U	I	R	E	20	P	E	A					
21	C	O	M	22	A	23	S	U	R	G	E	24	L	I	S	T				
K	C	A	B	25	K	O	O	L	R	E	E	V	E	26	N					
27	A	28	S	I	A	29	A	R	I	E	30	S	31	Y	O	Y	O			
32	N	F	L		33	S	H	O	A	T	A	34	R	T	H	D				
I	O	35	O	H	N	U	36	S	U	C	37	E	38	N	I	D				
39	M	A	R	E	40	A	S	41	A	N	O	R	A	K	I					
42	A	L	A	S	K	A	43	H	O	R	I	Z	O	N						
L	44	C	L	S	A	P	L	I	N	G	I	N	G							