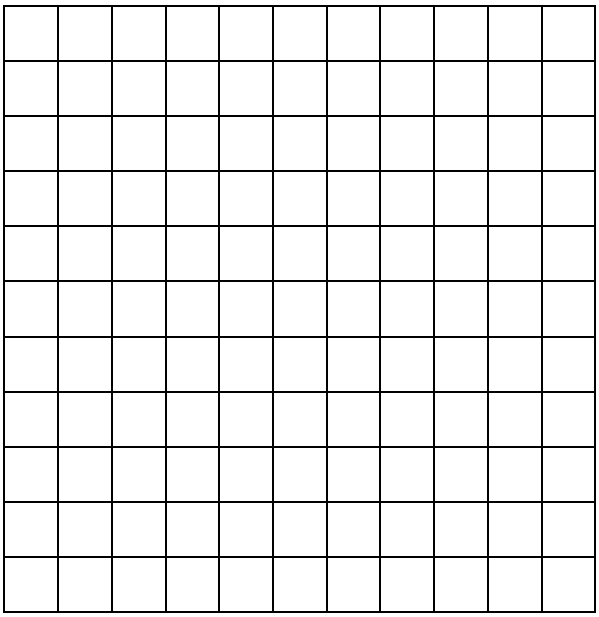
Puzzle #14 — July 2002 "Æstival"

Instructions: Guess the words defined by the cryptic clues (words vary in length from three to nine letters; three are capitalized and one is hyphenated), then enter them in the grid one after another in the same order as their clues, starting in the upper left corner. Across words that don't end at the right continue on the next row, and down words that don't end at the bottom continue in the next column. Seven across and eight down words won't fit in the grid unless one of their letters is removed. Those fifteen letters, taken in order, spell a four-word phrase related to the *mystery words* and to the title of the puzzle.



Across

1. *Mystery word*
2. Dame—gossipy one with sibilant air
3. Let in while a senior
4. Swell bugle playing
5. Be sick after end of trip in vessel
6. New polemic put together
7. Bad dream for corium
8. Surveyor's instrument displays boxer where Miami is
9. Look furiously regal
10. Railroad takes up the French sovereign
11. In the middle of plowing through team on goal
12. Heard chair of badgers' group
13. Soup boy restrains unruly tot
14. Pay attention in the editing
15. Landed in reality
16. Good-by, Royal Mongolian
17. Old boy waits and watches
18. Insipid stew meat
19. Call of bird in denial
20. Anise processed in Tuscan town
21. Ruby painting brought back by merchant
22. Unfortunately, a girl speaking
23. Note if seal broken in security mechanism
24. *Mystery word*

Down

1. Bird peering around end of bill
2. Israeli attaché holding reed mace upside-down
3. I'm a great English portrait
4. Bullish for bile acid
5. Tree of large curvature
6. Mix seaweed after morning before start of mess
7. Vehicle swerved, losing velocity, then sped headlong
8. Degree, like that instrument, is perfect
9. Working with English individual
10. Gratuitous destruction of reef
11. Loaded number went in front
12. Carried nothing for Indonesian island
13. Woman about to marry loses right to stay
14. Noodles enhance tapas
15. Phone-a-flower
16. Part of proletariat
17. Small sled carrying last of old sediment
18. Four in fruit case
19. Agree to current yield
20. Expression about that hollow hand cover
21. Stalk, then attack the one taking the blame
22. Faun's gamboling leads to chaotic situation