



CRYPTOCRYPTOZOOLOGY

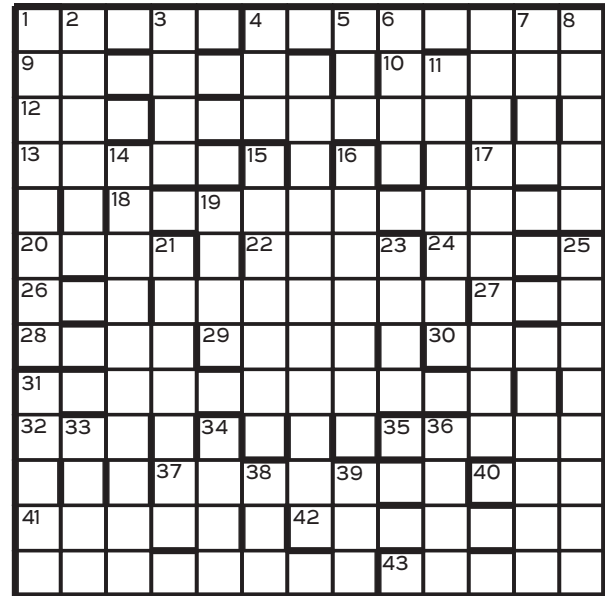
Our cryptocryptozoologists strive to identify mysterious creatures in as much detail as they can, though they naturally remain very elusive.

ACROSS

- 1 Murmur, getting very quiet and maudlin (5)
 4 Burning fuel has British flyers' head of fleet in agony (8)
 9 Makes contact with ibis/seal hybrid, bypassing head of Biology (7)
 10 Something like a raccoon's fur itches at first (5)
 12 It's a bit of work creating bridge in river gorge (3)
 13 Yes, *Lost* holds a couple thousand show biz awards (5)
 17 "Abbey Road", played backward, espouses grass (3)
 18 Important lane, if unlit, is treacherous (11)
 20 Sun worshipper's skin care essentials (4)
 22 Island immigration complex lacking visitor's center and extensions (4)
 24 Eight speaking a foreign tongue chat unintelligibly (4)
 26 Queen taking in article in *Listener* (3)
 27 Draft pick to do poorly, per announcer (3)
 28 Bit of linoleum aside, structure underfoot mirrored structure overhead (4)
 29 Overturned criminal's preliminary work (4)
 30 Get ready, to some extent, to be in Paris (4)
 32 Runner is backtracking about a kilometer (3)
 35 Short actor appears in two short subjects? (5)
 37 The fair sex is playing me false (7)
 40 How one might ship fish (3)
 41 Skinny-dipper (without shirt!) returns for counselling (5)
 42 Talk show host's large do getting mussed (7)
 43 Send back serving of chicken and British pudding (5)

DOWN

- 2 Marine maligned pilots (6)
 3 Religious virtue does not include empty compassion (4)
 4 Don't start to unlock animal enclosure (3)
 5 P-poorhouse denizen? (3)
 6 Care all about patch of farmland (4)
 7 What a certain bean loses to become so small? (4)



- 8 Mr. Bruce pledging to return missing gross domestic product (5)
 11 Performing live so agent's excited (7, 2 wds)
 14 Tiny archival pictures of amusing rodents nesting? (10)
 15 Not touching edge of abyss or climbing in bottomless crevasse (7, 2 wds)
 16 John describing perimeter structure on a rooftop (7)
 19 Turkey to land ungracefully (4)
 21 Haul off all of hay; alternatively, just one kind of hay (7)
 23 Pay no attention to bread rising (4)
 25 Malicious deletion of Justin Bieber's status (8, 2 wds)
 31 One way to be Hispanic in America: becoming employers (5)
 33 Was familiar with wildebeest's vocalization (4)
 34 Figures in red tango with society girl leading (4)
 36 Feature of "Capsized Coypu" (a Sega Genesis character) (4)
 38 Complete list of leading characters of "Muppets on Ice"? Miss Piggy! (...according to Miss Piggy) (3)
 39 Where to find a calf or lamb early on, for example (3)

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