

Notes

David Crystal was born in 1941, works from home in Holyhead, Anglesey. as a writer, editor, lecturer and broadcaster. A professor of linguistics, he has published over 50 books in the fields of language and general reference. His first book of devotional poetry, *Pilgrimage*, appeared in 1988, and a second volume is in preparation. Most of his poems are prompted by unexpected daily events, especially as encountered in religious services, and always involve elements of language play. *Cliché on Easter Day* was written in frustration one Easter Sunday after experiencing a long and wordy homily.

*Cliché on Easter Day*

In the final analysis  
At the end of the day  
Without beating about the bush  
When all's said and done  
When it comes to the crunch

Leaving no stone unturned  
Taking the bull by the horns  
Hitting the nail on the head  
Putting first things first  
Getting down to the nitty gritty

Spelling it out loud and clear  
Lock stock and barrel  
Hook line and sinker  
Telling it like it is  
To every Tom, Dick and Harry

Laying it on the line  
Laying it on the table  
Last but not least  
The long and the short of it  
The bottom line

Is

Jesus died  
Then rose again.

Anyone  
Beat that?

*David Crystal*