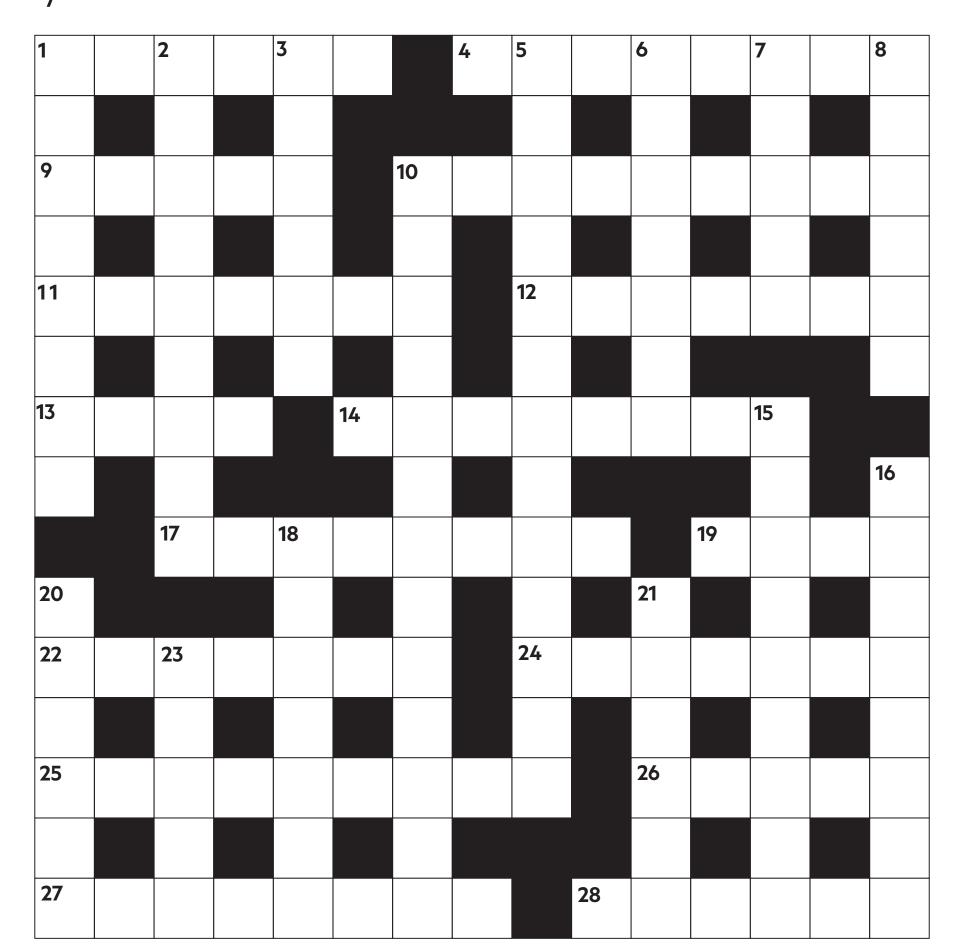
FT Crossword: Weekend Magazine number 496

Set by: Aldhelm



The Across clues are straightforward, while the Down clues are cryptic.

ACROSS

- **1** Stoop (6)
- 4 Pretentious, contrived (8)
- **9** Javelin (5)
- **10** Pierce (9)
- **11** Abandoned (7)
- 12 Southern US state (7)
- **13** Natural fibre (4)
- **14** Fire-retardant substance (8)
- 17 Impudence, gall (8)
- 19 Celebrity (4)
- 22 Small wind instrument (7)
- 24 Word-for-word (7)
- 25 In a salubrious way (9)
- **26** Object (5)
- 27 Memory jogger (8)
- **28** Breathe with difficulty (6)

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Solution 495														
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DOWN

- **1** Dejected about sad town that's dilapidated (4, 4)
- **2** Go too far with hilarious event after spells of cricket (9)
- **3** Red rice is cooked on empty stove (6)
- **5** Basically mean somehow to match investment, at first (13)
- **6** Passage from tax certificate that's abridged and amended (7)
- **7** Creativity's on the ascendant, including first class jewellery (5)
- **8** Perceived smart outfit for musical entertainer (6)
- **10** Remove vehicles from trains with speed that is changing (13)
- **15** Primarily sad in nature that's turning gloomy (9)
- **16** Opening words of lecture, initially, Old English group rearranged (8)
- 18 Wet mist one found swirling(7)
- 20 Republicans find in this place tailless rodent (6)
- 21 Something for a wound and a runner's pain (6)
- 23 Get shock from electrical armature (5)