ACROSS
1 Part of a sentence as in the first four words of “You can solve this if you try” (9,6)
11 A person who offers praise (9)
12 A dessert wine from Sicily (7)
13 A barrel-shaped cheese (7)
14 Citizens who were allies of the Romans and who were expected to support them in battle (9)
15 Fairies or other small supernatural beings (6,6)
17 An ethnoreligious group originating in the second millennium BCE (4)
19 Flirtatious behaviour (8)
21 An edition of a text with editorial annotations (8)
23 A domestic slave in Anglo-Saxon times (4)
24 Means for seeking advantage by attempting to discredit an opponent (5,7)
27 Logicality and consistency within an argument or theory (9)
28 A genus of plants that includes groundsel and ragwort (7)
29 A salt containing the element with atomic number 41 (7)
30 Products for artists not needed by watercolourists (3,6)
31 Greek mathematician noted for his work on proportions (7,2,6)

DOWN
2 A procedure sometimes needed in a close election (7)
3 Like a blockhead (10)
4 A simile or metaphor (5)
5 An uncontrollable event regarded as being unrelated to human action (3,2,3)
6 Correct in behaviour or etiquette (French) (5,2,4)
7 The Angel of Death in some religious traditions (6)
8 A sportsperson who receives rewards while appearing to be non-professional (9)
9 An area of the Middle East good for growing crops (7,8)
10 A large muscle extending from the middle to the lower back (10,5)
16 A large bag that gives its name to describe a word such as “brunch” (11)
18 A US city described by Longfellow as “the Queen of the West” (10)
20 A crystalline compound extracted from the artemisia plant (9)
22 A popular tourist attraction in Lombardy (4,4)
25 An unknown person or a large edible fish (7)
26 A prefix used in chemistry relating to carbon-containing compounds (6)
28 Relating to a tribe of Franks who established themselves along the Yssel river in the fourth century (5)