

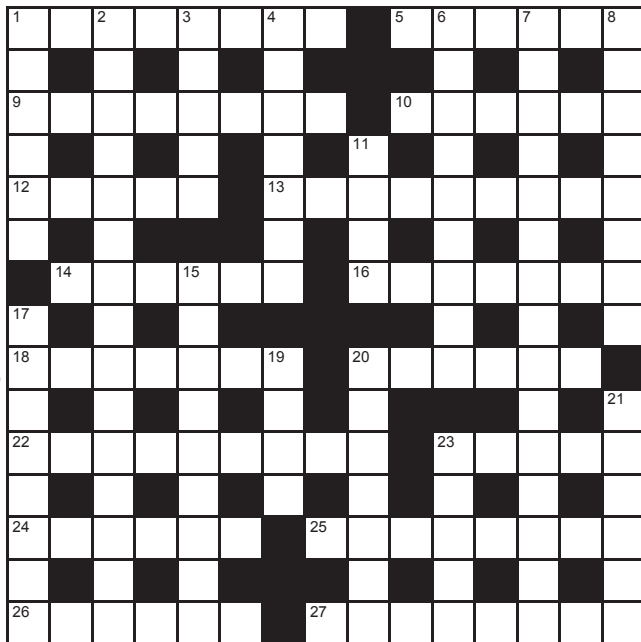
Crossword 16,526 Set by Goliath

ACROSS

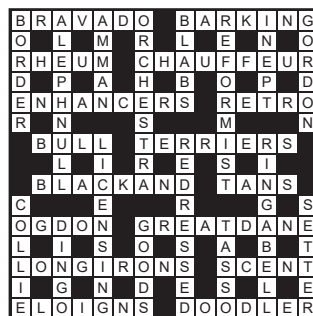
- 1 Some describe Arab leader as satisfactory (8)
- 5 Bits of fish in bits of music (6)
- 9 Someone taking off with airline without approval? Yes, primarily (8)
- 10 See 4
- 12 American period of employment (5)
- 13 Fool's hernia perhaps needs internal support (9)
- 14 One shot Kennedy as President, perhaps not Ted (6)
- 16 Nothing changes in female parts (7)
- 18 To state how old you are is standard (7)
- 20 Friend had upset spiritual leader (6)
- 22 Simon's gone crazy and turned killer and he can't sleep at night (9)
- 23 Free introduction to Carole King (5)
- 24 Removing the centre of base website in deference (6)
- 25 Extremely overenthusiastic cuddle may be blocked (8)
- 26 Having a meal, sound as a bell, but missing girl (6)
- 27 Write song that's bent (8)

DOWN

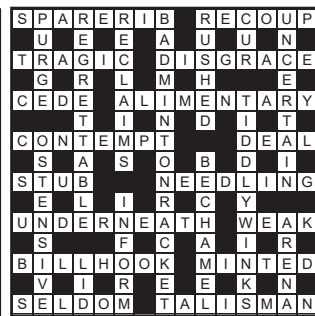
- 1 Sunbathe, say, in Spanish region (6)
- 2, 7, 20 A Western gulf state requires a proficient swimmer – must have forced celibacy and stated conviction on female **independence** (1,5,5,1,3,4,1,4,5,1,7)
- 3 Brave to leave hospital quickly (5)
- 4, 10 Fish useful on a bike? (13)
- 6 Put your hands together for directors seen before action (9)
- 7 See 2
- 8 It's a man's dubious form of worship (8)
- 11 Riot possibly caused by Dumky? (4)
- 15 Bum rap: mating game (9)
- 17 Hungry in the morning, having trawled about (8)
- 19 Sexy with no clothes? Leave! (4)
- 20 See 2
- 21 Chain reaction starts with correct recognition (6)
- 23 Crude oil in small volume for gripe (5)



Solution 16,525



Solution 16,514



Jotter pad