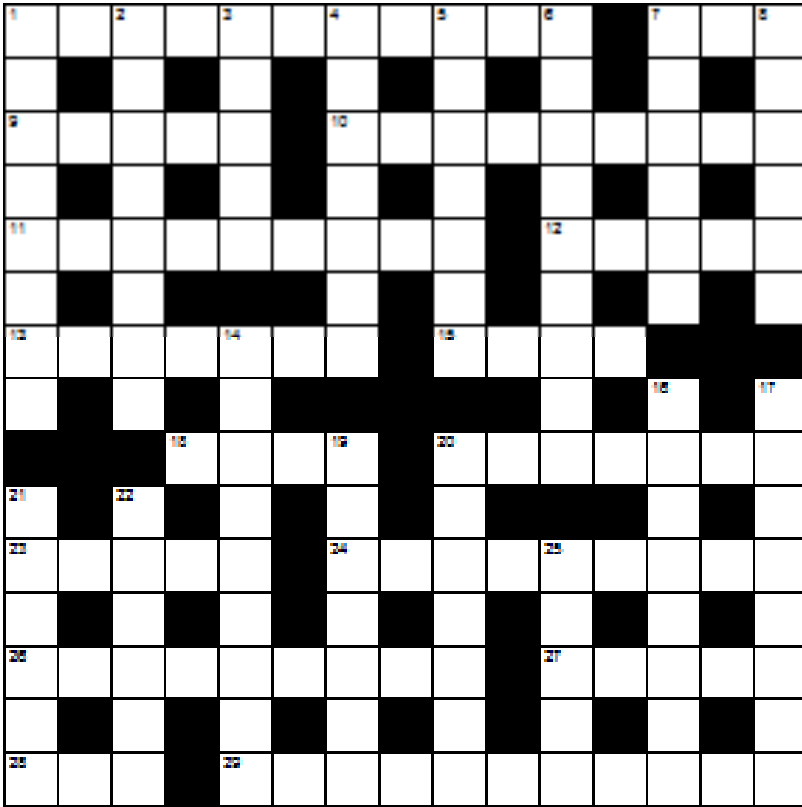


CROSSWORD

No 16,605 Set by ARMONIE



ACROSS

- 1 The boy's got heart; he's in advertising (11)
- 7 Pen friend? (3)
- 9 Cut top off finger and it glows red hot (5)
- 10 It comes to a point where dole is repeated over and over (9)
- 11 Food science ICI tested rigorously (9)
- 12 Have a desire to tell tales about the east (5)
- 13 An accidental certainty? (7)
- 15 Clever one to catch out (4)
- 18 It's used to beat a young animal in the middle of culling (4)
- 20 God inspired a rector (7)
- 23 Public sector workers give up Sunday league (5)
- 24 Plant making weapon takes a lot of money (9)
- 26 Shoot back a charged particle. It's within established practice (9)
- 27 I'm overtly modest but quietly vulgar (5)
- 28 A drink of port (3)
- 29 To ditch campaign they spread scandalous stories (6,5)

DOWN

- 1, 21 Routine employment (5,3,6)
- 2 The script bore endless title, oddly enough (8)
- 3 Discover chromium in rockfall (5)
- 4 Endorse a letter of introduction (7)
- 5 Overturn issue of strengthening member for ship (7)
- 6 Quack remedy Ada got off the shelf (9)
- 7 Caught short leg say, with a kiss, at a decisive moment (6)
- 8, 17 Graduate's forebear childishy squanders a cooked sweet (6,8)
- 14 Becoming less severe in gentler fashion (9)
- 16 The manner and inherent ability to get a model for a penny (8)
- 17 See 8
- 19 Fish is tiptop for this musician (7)
- 20 Prefers to be in church to carry out absolution (7)
- 21 See 1
- 22 Plagiarist's to talk incessantly about one (6)
- 25 Theology lessons conceited young man's to tear to shreds (3,2)

JOHN DAWSON, crossword compiler Armonie in the FT, died on September 24 after a long illness. Born in 1946, a Novocastrian, he worked as a design engineer in the chemical industry. His laboratory colleagues gathered round the crossword in the morning tea break and this led to a lifelong passion, first as solver and 20 years later as compiler. His pseudonyms, Chifonie in the Guardian and Armonie in the FT, early names for the hurdy-gurdy, reflected his love of early music.

Early retirement and a move to Kendal enabled him to indulge his passion for walking and his love of the Lake District, which resulted in the website *lakedistrictwalks.com*. With retirement supported by setting crosswords and work as a warehouse truck operator, he took up again a teenage enthusiasm for ballroom dancing and with his partner started competing in the National League.

As a compiler at the easier end of the FT cryptic scale, his puzzles were often seen as a template to guide aspirant setters. He filled the Monday prize puzzle slot for many years and only retired a few months ago because of health problems.

John Dawson's first FT crossword from November 2 1995 is reprinted today.