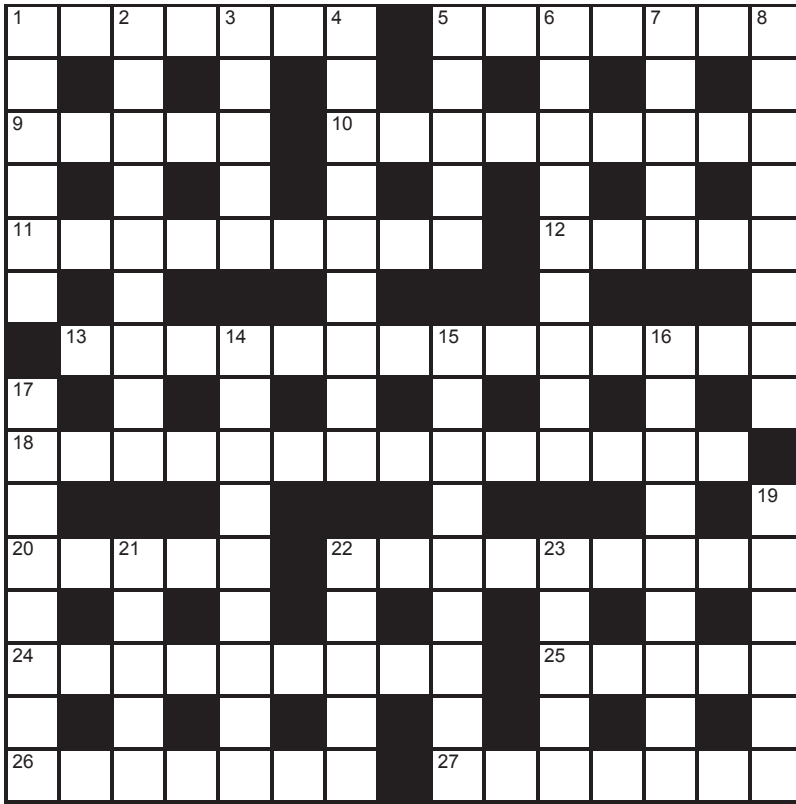


CROSSWORD

No 16,688 Set by JULIUS



ACROSS

- 1 Was boring rough diamonds at the beginning (7)
- 5 Giving up putting the boot in? (7)
- 9 Weak, loud liar going into retirement (5)
- 10 Singing very loud Southern Germanic composition (9)
- 11 Mother screening terribly drole theatrical performance (9)
- 12 G8 company turning offensive (5)
- 13 Part in operetta has Adam Sandler returning – completely crazy! (2,3,2,1,6)
- 18 Working on US interfaces, a manifestation of liquid molecular attraction (7,7)
- 20 Back in Soho, I'd arrested part of the media (5)
- 22 Regularly Tweeting, the Beeb aims for a bit of scale (5,4)
- 24 New Delhi twin roaming free (2,3,4)
- 25 Speak – speak indistinctly – forgetting the introduction (5)
- 26 Leaving fair purchase on the 20? (7)
- 27 Toast hot Eire product, crust being firm (7)

DOWN

- 1 Run down, fed up, James undressed (6)
- 2 Crybaby sold flipping drug in a pub (1,3,5)
- 3 Frozen eel is served like this, I gather (5)
- 4 1 down detective's fury arresting dad (9)
- 5 VP leaving Los Angeles embracing the culmination of her destiny (5)
- 6 Burn cooking oils coating Australian beef (9)
- 7 Starts to introduce Darjeeling infusion, overflowing tea mug (5)
- 8 Mob killing northern comedians (8)
- 14 Rocky Balboa – wet, miserable (2,1,3,3)
- 15 Copy Brazilian city detectives, turning up every once in a while (9)
- 16 Tow damaged Spanish car, sort of GT? (3,6)
- 17 Seizing American uniform, infantryman discharged rocket propelled grenade outside (8)
- 19 Upsetting Julius, brother covers up unknown future niece or nephew (6)
- 21 The same party diktat occasionally creeping in (5)
- 22 Wife punched European chess player (5)
- 23 Hotel on English river to provide accommodation (5)

JOTTER PAD

Solution 16,687

