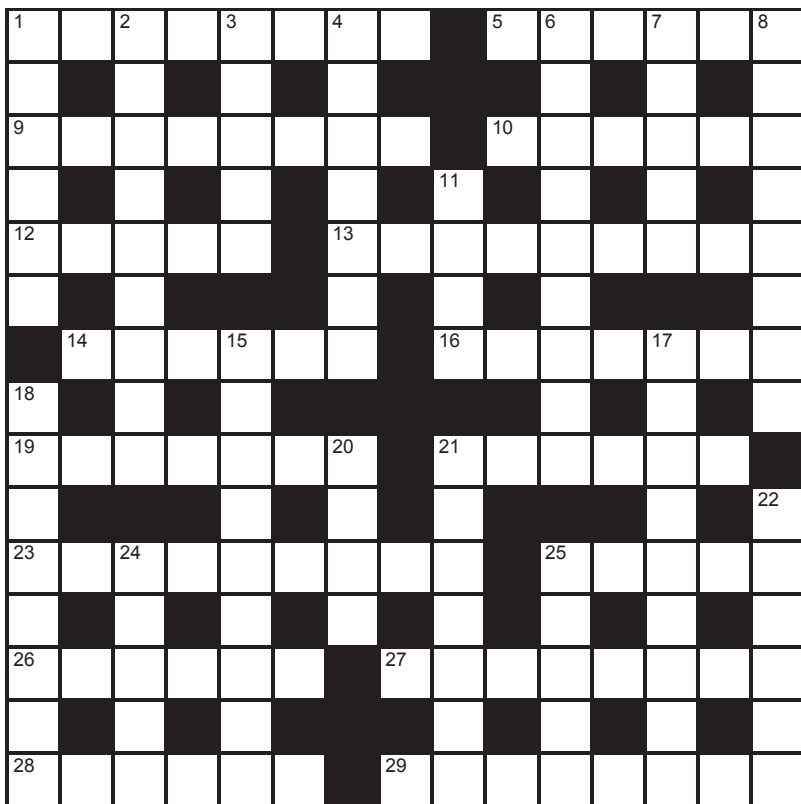


CROSSWORD

No 16,788 Set by AARDVARK



ACROSS

- 1 Key cut separates each overturned piece of meat (8)
- 5 Postpone retiring high-spirited bigwig (3,3)
- 9 Quiet husband enters building again somewhere in south-east Asia (8)
- 10 Ask the man to drop every last complaint (6)
- 12 Standing before court (5)
- 13 Funny character encountered around noon, after morning exercise (9)
- 14 Explosive stuff – helmet regularly needed when it's around (6)
- 16 Active period without Mike, such as start of October (2,3,2)
- 19 Military leader, age fifty, on first book (7)
- 21 Parisian that hugs group with daughter, having waited in line (6)
- 23 Fixed stake pulled over by horse, a volatile thing (5,4)
- 25 Some chant a hymn backwards? It's nonsense (2,3)
- 26 German runner, one who tends to pet barking (6)
- 27 Lady's request for food perhaps causing mayhem (8)
- 28 Wear down half of tyre in Lincoln (6)
- 29 Incidentally, this is where police cameras usually are (2,3,3)

DOWN

- 1 Maybe wind left Yankee exiting festival (6)
- 2 Changeable person smoked joint in church somewhere in Spain (9)
- 3 Authorised to go away on foot (5)
- 4 Unit of troops having half a lager in pub number ten (7)
- 6 Draw sun flickering over endless evergreen shrubland (9)
- 7 Brownish-yellow Scandinavian coin found around clubhouse (5)
- 8 Perhaps one over six feet ten keeps reversing car with strain ultimately (8)
- 11 Sport which is played on board, jack replacing learner (4)
- 15 One supposedly forecasts carrot to develop during Whit? (5,4)
- 17 Cosmetic treatment of head's restricting the old, old women (9)
- 18 Obsessive self-interest, for example, East European uncovered (8)
- 20 Move that's on ice, as latest United target primarily unknown (4)
- 21 Type of street that's demolished at Xmas? It's cracking (7)
- 22 Describing certain nights as a celebrity? (6)
- 24 Faceless governor bypasses constant health problem (5)
- 25 Lounge's central heating low at first (5)

JOTTER PAD

Solution 16,787

N	I	C	E	S	T	C	O	N	T	R	A	C	T
O	A	N	H	S	Y	N	N	U					
T	E	S	T	A	M	E	N	T	P	O	K	E	R
E	S	P	A	R	O	L	I						
B	R	A	G	S	T	R	I	N	G	B	E	A	N
O	N	D	E	C	R								
O	L	D	M	A	I	D	H	E	A	R	T	S	
K	R	I											
R	A	N	S	O	M	M	A	H	A	T	M	A	
A													
F	O	R	E	W	A	R	N	E	D	S	U	F	I
G	U	H	O	N	B	T	E						
H	E	N	C	E	C	H	A	R	L	A	T	A	N
A	U	E	C	D	U	E	C						
N	A	P	O	L	E	O	N	B	R	I	D	G	E