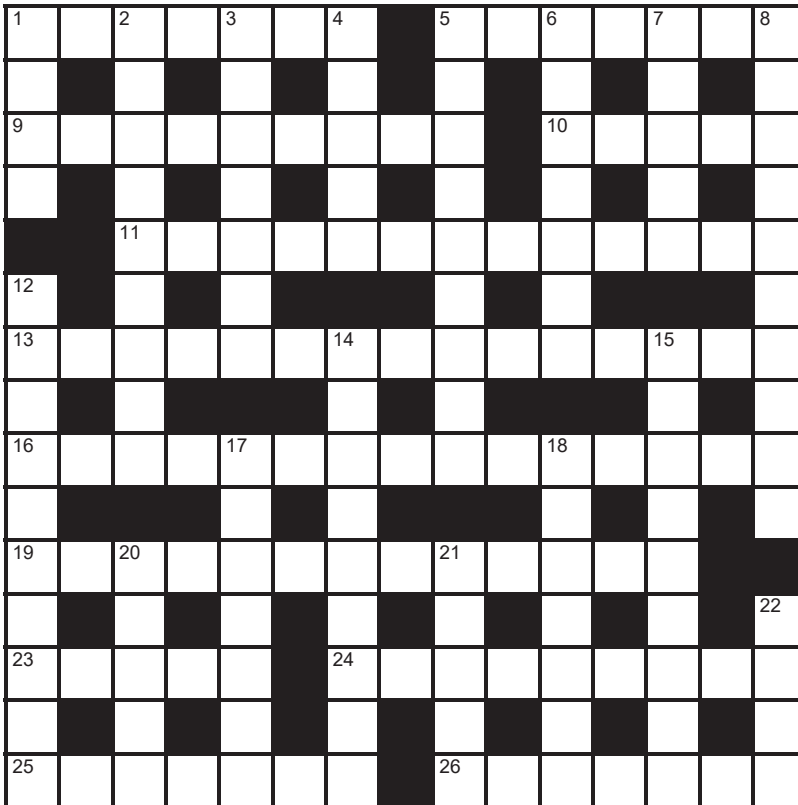


CROSSWORD

No 16,855 Set by MONK



ACROSS

- 1 Sold in France, having cut deal? (7)
- 5 About to go on main road, on solid traffic island (7)
- 9 Uncapped benefits following semi-hidden cutting-edge modifications? (9)
- 10 Cheerful alternative, not very advanced (5)
- 11 Emotionally based movement unexpectedly inspires 50% more sex (13)
- 13 Book crew of 4, 1 down? (5,3,2,1,4)
- 16 Temporarily repair book left between square covers (9,6)
- 19 Father and Greek brides working in European municipality (13)
- 23 Island's small business providing coverage for central India? (5)
- 24 Former exclusion surrounding unlimited 21 is reviewed at once (9)
- 25 Blokes, those that spout a lot, getting caught (7)
- 26 Names two characters for exchanging inaugural gift (7)

DOWN

- 1 Picked up just food and drink (4)
- 2 Busy male going in August, perhaps wrong to return south of Spain (2,3,4)
- 3 Fan trouble, mostly about publisher (7)
- 4 Briskly push last of mortar into joint (5)
- 5 Son sits awkwardly in athletic support that smells when it's hot? (4,5)
- 6 Ballerina's distinction ended by gossip? (7)
- 7 Tax officials answer first part of exam in a foreign language (5)
- 8 A form of OTT autism in one who acts without thinking (10)
- 12 Stunning power held by finest guy around (10)
- 14 Large book about study is getting circulated, maybe :-) :-) (9)
- 15 Old line crossed by great workers, those legally bound for Scotland (9)
- 17 Chooses cracknel off and on for US grub (3-4)
- 18 Yet to be put away, reigning supreme after ousting British (7)
- 20 Deport team involved in endless mêlée (5)
- 21 Forge Cambridge University research findings, ultimately rejected externally (5)
- 22 Satisfactory source (4)

JOTTER PAD

Solution 16,854

