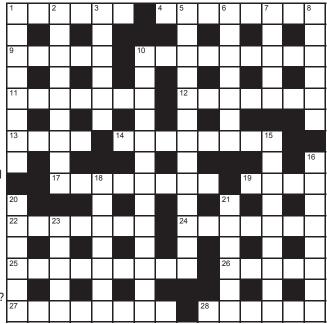
Crossword 16,900 Set by Mudd

ACROSS

- **1** Troublesome child in quandary? (6)
- 412 record finished (8)
- **9** Old Scot keeping Leader of Opposition in loop (5)
- **10** Exhausted, do in left-back after match (3,2,4)
- **11** Unlawful act: criminal nearly accepting consequences, initially (7)
- **12** Make new serial, last of three (7)
- 13 In leaving superpower, head for Djibouti, African country (4)
- 14 Soldiers in test rescuing lover (8)
- 17 Cold heart, obscene (8)
- 19 Ship involved in exercise, I say! (4)
- **22** One in better state, newsworthy (7)
- **24**Lay a carpet on surfaces in every utility room (7)
- **25** Present doctrine circulated around university (9)
- **26** Ultimately, bush on border? (5)
- 27 Honour my word! (8)
- **28** Drawer that follows line, drawn back (6)

DOWN

- **1** People put delicate fabric underneath uniform (8)
- **2** Male swimmer creature doing the crawl? (9)
- 3 Refuse family (6)
- **5** Union between races that is inspiring migrant, rare surprisingly (13)
- **6** For example, water bird circling land, briefly (7)
- 7 Credentials minister backed up for Italian behind bars? (5)
- **8** Weapon good to stab back when raised (6)
- **10** Doing well, pass claimed by us – passing with those? (6,7)
- **15** Old song in recent memory? (9)
- **16** Fish not gutted, grouse cooked (8)
- 18 Wheels turning, business working for American native (7)
- **20**Saint with halo in series (6) **21**Slightly sooner (6)
- 23 Terrace: second in road I touch up (5)



Solution 16,899

Solution 16,888

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Jotter pad