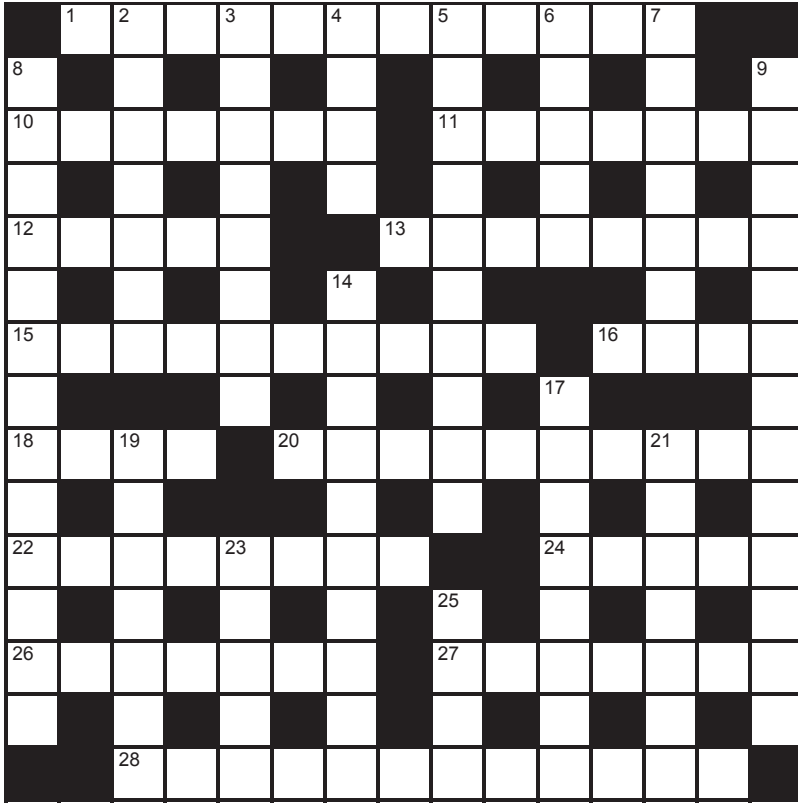


CROSSWORD

No 16,984 Set by MUDD



ACROSS

- 1 Beat hopeless types flaming quickly (7-5)
- 10 Sending up children's author (7)
- 11 Packages from Italy are almost back, item in case seen shortly (7)
- 12 Pole, British PM once (5)
- 13 Very occasional wounding of picadors (8)
- 15 Cleared of blame, English XI perhaps admired (10)
- 16 Flag is raised in Spain, primarily (4)
- 18 Father shackled by mother, I solemnly recalled (4)
- 20 Underwear removed including smalls, editor unhappy (7,3)
- 22 At start of winter, perhaps, ten turned blue (8)
- 24 Mount tethered by equestrian I see, from behind (5)
- 26 French castle: discussion on content of its moat? (7)
- 27 Old PM discards that, his awful prize (7)
- 28 Bottle bottle? (5,7)

DOWN

- 2 On fire, conflagration ultimately out of control – is it? (7)
- 3 The king proving corrupt, daughter given honour (8)
- 4 Country on the way out? (4)
- 5 Earl Grey and others entertained by band - exciting show? (10)
- 6 O Romeo, Romeo! (5)
- 7 Cherry tree's part dug up, as requested (2,5)
- 8 How material may be reinforced, repairing belt with thin tacks (7,6)
- 9 Coins 1, 2 and 5 perhaps? (6,2,5)
- 14 Requiring no further peroxide treatment? I guess that's OK (4,6)
- 17 Sew near hem he's left, after repairing trousers etc (8)
- 19 Vehicle beginning to drive after stop signal – that signal says 'go'! (3,4)
- 21 Nothing in family good – sounding like a swine? (7)
- 23 Conservative and Socialist split (5)
- 25 Repeat the music with gusto, finally (4)

JOTTER PAD

Solution 16,983

P	L	A	I	T	A	G	A	I	N	S	A	M
A	A	R	B	A	N	C	A					
T	O	R	E	A	D	O	R	S	D	E	I	G
E	O	N	G	L	U	O	I					
R	I	N	G	C	A	S	A	B	L	A	N	C
N	S	S	R	M	G							
A	P	R	I	C	O	T	P	L	E	X	U	S
L	O	I					N	N	S			
A	D	V	E	R	B	C	O	C	T	E	A	U
T		N	E	I	E	A	S					
A	D	U	L	T	E	R	A	T	E	C	R	O
R	S	I	G	I	F	T	E					
S	T	U	F	F	M	O	N	A	R	C	H	I
U	A	I	A	G	E	E	T					
S	I	L	I	C	O	N	E	V	E	L	D	T