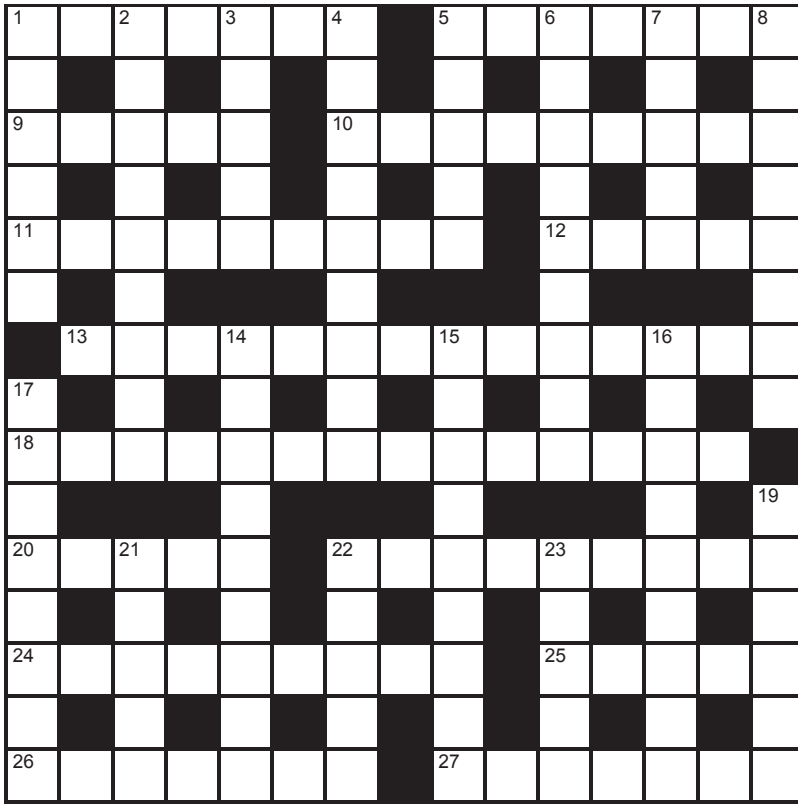


CROSSWORD

No 16,997 Set by JULIUS



ACROSS

- 1, 5 Stalwart of space programme? Well, his Martian is fluent (7,7)
- 9 Father, taking temperature, sticks his nose in (5)
- 10 Clever clogs regularly sampling some craft beer, cold (5,4)
- 11 Once again assess tons pinched from treasure Julius buried (9)
- 12 Last bit of fish, half skinned (5)
- 13 One who nicks those nicking knickers? (5,9)
- 18 I've served 20 different ministers devoted to this work (7,7)
- 20 More inquisitive European deported? Certainly not! (2,3)
- 22 One is used to time spinner cutting sample of cloth (9)
- 24 Odd redaction doesn't bother me (1,4,4)
- 25 Make an appearance, always poetically holding part of the 18? (5)
- 26 Chapter from Kerouac pulped – time to get rid of the leaves (4,3)
- 27 Sticky stuff Marcel every so often covered with ash? (7)

DOWN

- 1 Sitting in VW, I personally use these in wet weather (6)
- 2 Spraying toilet with Vim is a repetitive theme (9)
- 3 This month start to activate social network, as the kids say (5)
- 4 Foolish schoolmarm reportedly took the lead (9)
- 5 Small step where Armstrong was? (5)
- 6 New camera has this gold, soft alloy lined with old copper (9)
- 7 New year, on one's tod, unwrapped something found in stocking (5)
- 8 Having remembered name, actor Oliver comes round (8)
- 14 Turkey entering dispute supporting Rhode Island strong drink (9)
- 15 Those running a fast time in stretch of tidal water (3,6)
- 16 One very still, regarding the equilibrium in the earth's crust (9)
- 17 Border row after the majority of Norfolk gets upset (8)
- 19 Caught husband trafficking gear for a price (6)
- 21 Those spreading the gospel about old pediatrician (5)
- 22 Begin long-running TV series killing off Queen, Earl & King (5)
- 23 At which point wife's present (5)

JOTTER PAD

Solution 16,996

