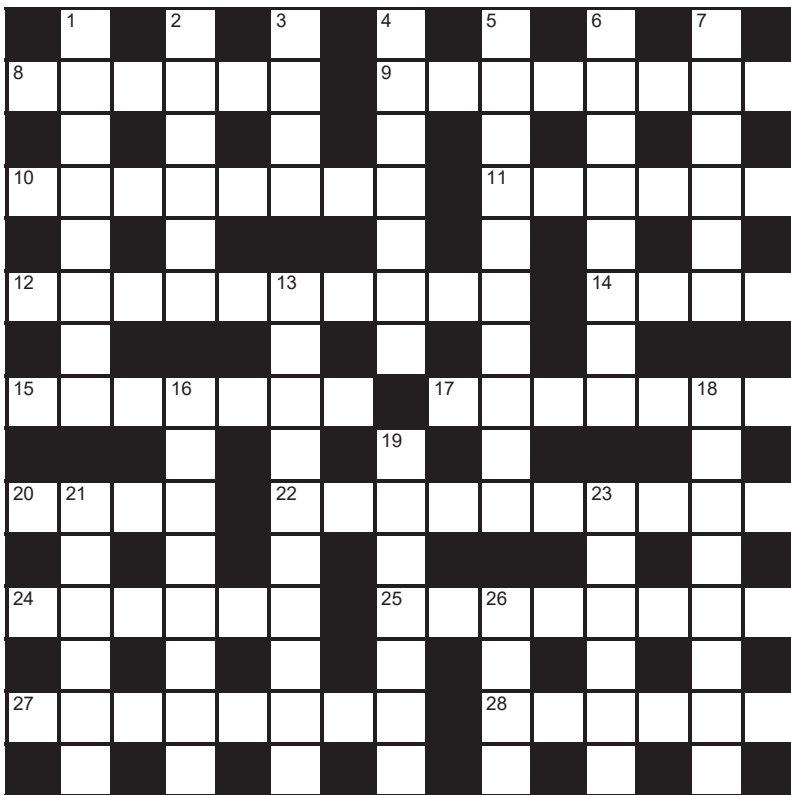


CROSSWORD

No 17,030 Set by GAFF



A literary puzzle

ACROSS

- 8** Kind of starts to harvest ultra long hair (6)
- 9** Help to land discount (4,4)
- 10** Conflict of duty? (5,3)
- 11** Encouraging signal for partner to wait on radio offer (3,3)
- 12** How to gauge the blow of a missing fish dish with lobster tail (10)
- 14** Two lovers suit empty houses (4)
- 15** Official artist Gaff put into new perspective (7)
- 17** Altar nearly due to be made flatter (7)
- 20** Used to be hot and clean (4)
- 22** Fixed fees to end a novel (4,2,4)
- 24** God fashions outside units (6)
- 25** Jumper worn on head (3,5)
- 27** Zero responsibility for failure (8)
- 28** Unmanned security position (6)

DOWN

- 1** Bend ear to gun fire from greater distance (8)
- 2** Followers of cooler monk (6)
- 3** Some owe a bit to the kitty, we hear (4)
- 4** Go over the head of educated left (7)
- 5** Means to be roused by waves (5,5)
- 6** Advantage at height of battle (8)
- 7** Child's heart in admiration for a spell (6)
- 13** Remains in male joint with those who've joined (10)
- 16** Turn woman's attention to extremely secure practice (8)
- 18** Undecided seat (3,5)
- 19** Sinatra performed for empress (7)
- 21** Gives a turn to call centre members (6)
- 23** Clocking in after you say is restricting (6)
- 26** Does damage limitation at conference centre (4)

JOTTER PAD