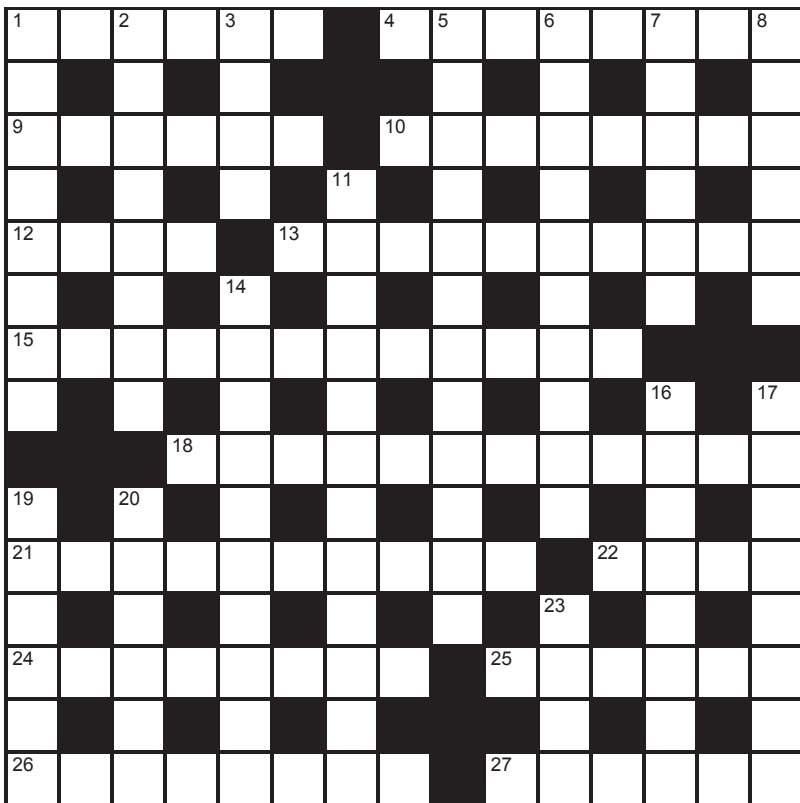


CROSSWORD

No 17,040 Set by REDSHANK



ACROSS

- 1 Protect spades I kept outside (6)
- 4 This odd chap nicks paper from Corinth maybe (8)
- 9 Drink, say, going to be withdrawn? I quit (6)
- 10 Soldiers rejected bloke coming out (8)
- 12 Somewhere to cook rare marine extract (4)
- 13 Duck estate agent's billet-doux (4,6)
- 15 Cold drink violates America's code (3-5,4)
- 18 Slight person chillier? Ought to be hugged (4-8)
- 21 Order given to butcher to be dismissed? (3,3,4)
- 22 Dodgy moment after judge leaves (4)
- 24 Anne worked with a lot of recent arrivals (8)
- 25 Wheels round a sixth salted roe (6)
- 26 Ships once leave small group of stars outside (8)
- 27 Imagine stupidly ignoring current puzzle! (6)

DOWN

- 1 Edit most of *Arsenic and Old Lace* plot outline (8)
- 2 Thankless types where the Ashes end up? (8)
- 3 Spoils officer guarding leaders in Oval Office (4)
- 5 Adders collected, curbing hotel vacation course (6,6)
- 6 Terrifying Egyptian god split Osiris' first spears (10)
- 7 Conceive international meeting without English (6)
- 8 Wildlife function up river (6)
- 11 Smell Rod's silk that's fawn (3,3,6)
- 14 Dashing hero awards points for *The Archers*? (10)
- 16 Training detective force watching fences (8)
- 17 Sign of maturity that needs clarification (4,4)
- 19 United Georgia and boring African country (6)
- 20 Powerful trumpeter sacrificing limb (6)
- 23 Left top of grass or all of it (4)

JOTTER PAD

Solution 17,039

