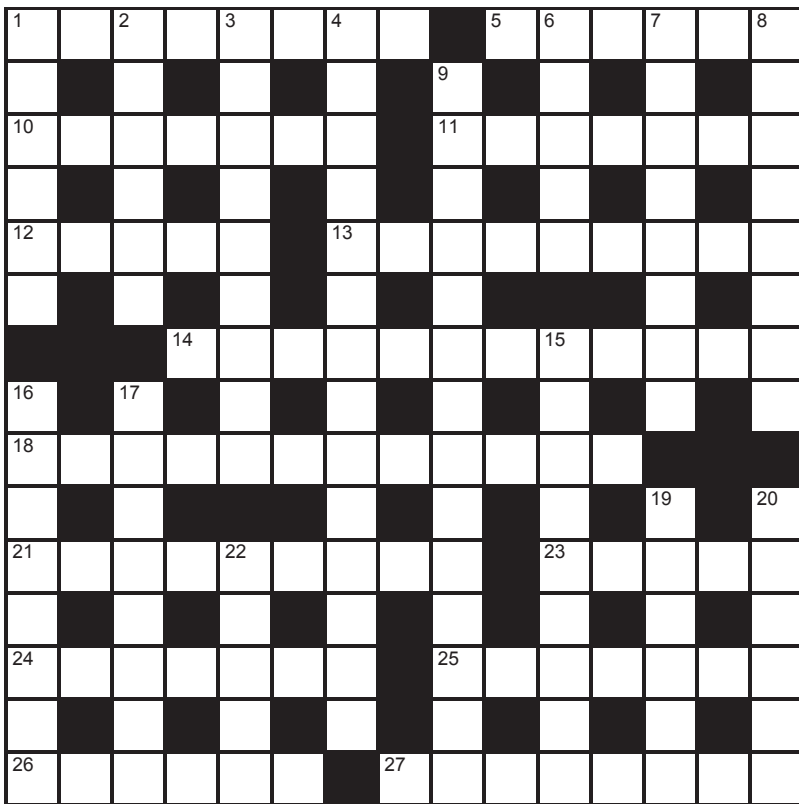


CROSSWORD

No 17,187 Set by JULIUS



ACROSS

- 1 *Ursus arctos* with tails bitten off start to torment cow (8)
- 5 Arm militant OAP in overcrowded city (6)
- 10 Italian city diary kept by an aristo in retirement (7)
- 11 Managed at least a dozen deliveries and a wicket (7)
- 12 Bill prone to change (5)
- 13 Part of shower in a hotel's broken (9)
- 14 Band into R'n'B lacks Abba theatricality (5,7)
- 18 Tool for cutting and polishing fish skin in Germany (5,7)
- 21 American interdisciplinary degree resit rejected, for starters (9)
- 23 Hearts 0-1 St Mirren (star given red card, heavy tackle) (5)
- 24 I sit around, nibbling odd bits of brill in a Georgian city (7)
- 25 A type of cabbage stuffed with the Spanish sausage (7)
- 26 Daughter left stick outside, which is wicked (6)
- 27 Maybe Rudolph was king in this place, it's commonly rumoured (8)

DOWN

- 1 Auntie saves old article on Vermont's last wild feline (6)
- 2 Old island salt knocked over tin of lubricant (6)
- 3 Top-of-the-table game is something of little significance (9)
- 4 I hit Chas – a great novel writer (6,8)
- 6 50-50 chance of the next clue having singular ending? (5)
- 7 Visiting MP Astor, a Lady from the countryside (8)
- 8 Bash we held in the capital (3,5)
- 9 A washed-up individual, dodgy neocon Boris is infiltrated by Russia (8,6)
- 15 He couldn't hear buzzer on time on hot stove (9)
- 16 Rocky, small area surrounded by sea (8)
- 17 African, beginning to experience pain, ain't going to work (8)
- 19 Field sports guide that is supporting good and bad (6)
- 20 Plucky horse tears maniacally around yard (6)
- 22 Hearing test? (5)

JOTTER PAD

Solution 17,186

