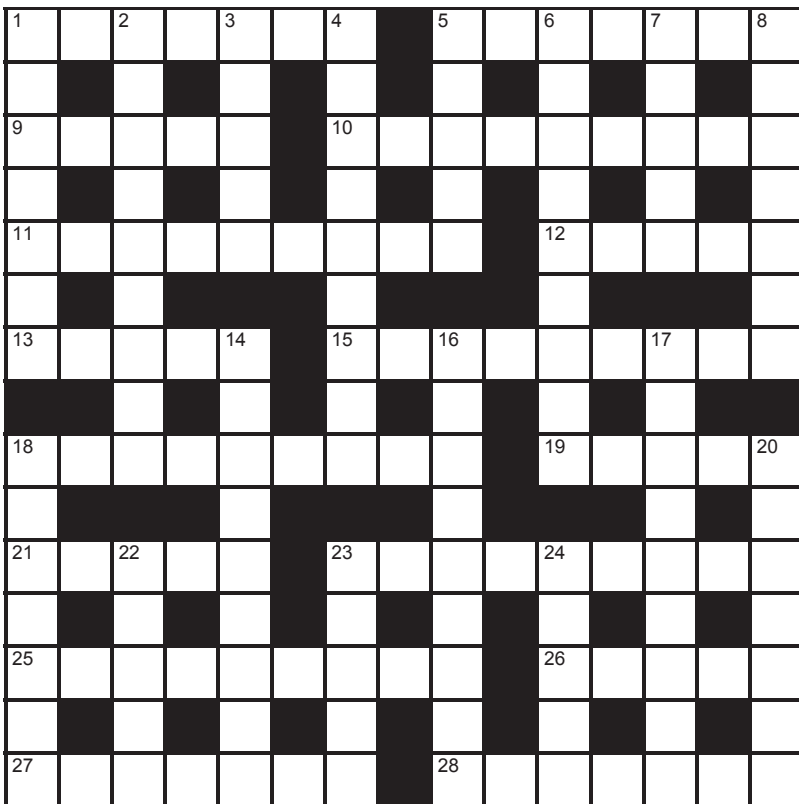


CROSSWORD

No 17,216 Set by BOBCAT



ACROSS

- 1 Youngster on short cut through library (4,3)
- 5 Bread is consumed by the Masons at initiation ceremony (7)
- 9 Former Hollywood star not right in Ibsen role (5)
- 10 Bus travelling around top speed in circles, causing confusion (9)
- 11 More than one drug-taking bumpkin's a potential nuisance in bed (9)
- 12 Garment exchange in old country involving thousands (5)
- 13 See solution to debts? (5)
- 15 Articles about Parisian night beginning to take - I'm due payment (9)
- 18 Picnic food and drink get endlessly knocked back at Glyndebourne's première (6,3)
- 19 One directing space scheme's oddly deficient (5)
- 21 Part of presentation at a lecture on birth (5)
- 23 The essence of beehive control? (9)
- 25 Brightly decorate ornamental band securing unusual gift (9)
- 26 I'm not sure china from Sèvres displays taste (5)
- 27 Dope needing support on course originally looked refined (7)
- 28 Name going with position - highest attainable with dodgy money out east (7)

DOWN

- 1 Sensible pub drinks - just half a small measure? (7)
- 2 Essential part of music from Bilbao got mislaid (9)
- 3 Brass taps keep losing power when turned (5)
- 4 Commission *Vogue* to undermine *Man* after change of hands (9)
- 5 Settled since apparently retiring (5)
- 6 Autobiographers could be aghast if this payment's withheld after editing (9)
- 7 It's cooler, but more risky, to go topless (5)
- 8 One leaving friend abroad exposed is heading for storm (7)
- 14 You shouldn't be fit to take this opportunity for self-improvement (4,5)
- 16 Officer got up and left: one fellow paying no attention (9)
- 17 Athens on vacation's sure to be divine (9)
- 18 Hit hard, and bound to start going into decline (7)
- 20 Emily's dancing with us in state of bliss (7)
- 22 A heavyweight boxing-wise by profession (5)
- 23 Who, in brief, held the fundamentals of *Geist* and *Essence* to be innate? (5)
- 24 What's left of tree found in hollow? (5)

JOTTER PAD

Solution 17,215

