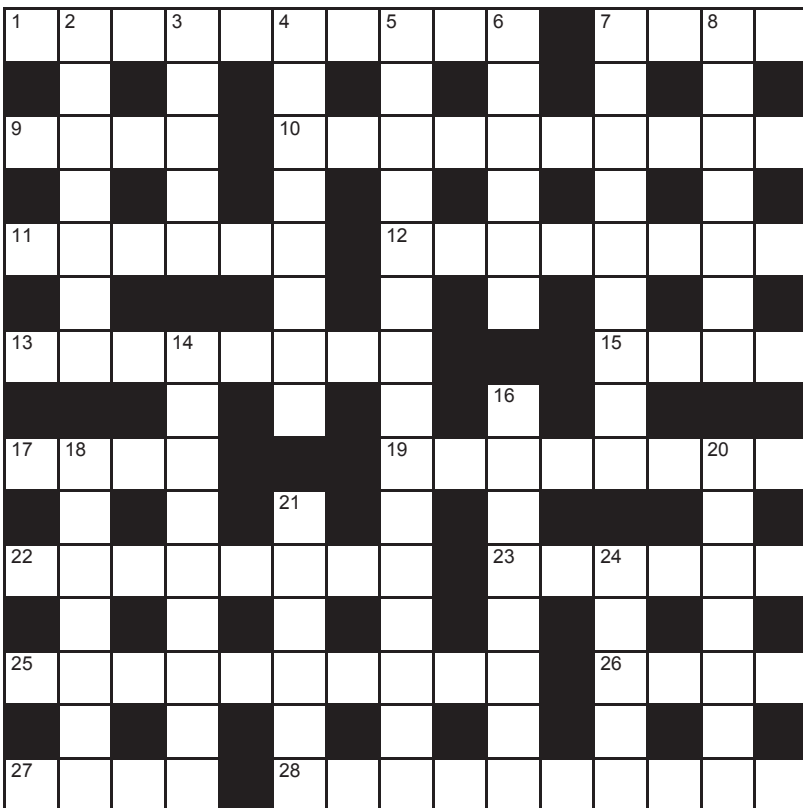


# CROSSWORD

No 17,234 Set by SLEUTH



## ACROSS

- 1 Pit to accommodate fantastic bowler in major group (5,5)
- 7 Choice film for an audience (4)
- 9 Slang, say, on a regular basis in extended story (4)
- 10 Pay attention to a floodgate when broken (3,1,4,2)
- 11 Benign family in appropriate fashion overlooking first sign of unfriendliness (6)
- 12 High tax dividing European city endlessly (8)
- 13 Horse taken by a British writer in Asian city (8)
- 15 Part of boom anticipated in ME country (4)
- 17 Husband is given trouble in wintry weather (4)
- 19 Poignant article probing countryside pursuit (8)
- 22 Catch normal basis for employment? (8)
- 23 Dark place to go in dilapidated gym (6)
- 25 Eastern Europeans given a role to be very different (5,5)
- 26 Set of players expressed dejection, we're told (4)
- 27 Growth clearly suspect at the margins (4)
- 28 Observe one with a ticket in a mess (4,6)

## DOWN

- 2 Music maker and fashion designer wasting day in boat essentially (7)
- 3 Dash with director to see African animal (5)
- 4 Moneybags with no end of dollars represented dreaded character (8)
- 5 How one might describe Conservative with record likely to succeed? (2,3,5,5)
- 6 Youngster carrying odd bits of litter in Highland dress? (6)
- 7 Gamble on a boxing match and behave irresponsibly (4,5)
- 8 Pass time around hotel making complaint (7)
- 14 A large French department satisfied about new place for cultivation (9)
- 16 Element in enthusiastic type that's upset doddery gents (8)
- 18 Traveller in China in a good year has to make grovelling statement? (7)
- 20 US actor flips in charge of a wandering lot? (7)
- 21 Soprano in Paris before knowledgeable figure (6)
- 24 Source notes criminal describing where shooting takes place? (5)

## JOTTER PAD

Solution 17,233

