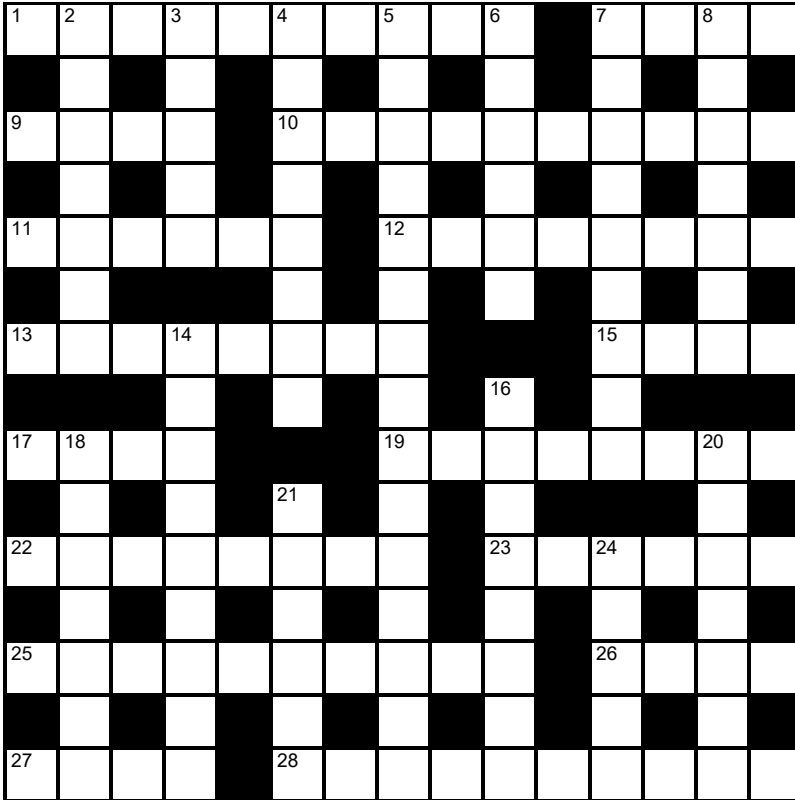


# CROSSWORD

No 17,298 Set by PHSSTHPOK



## ACROSS

- 1 A short note, qua clue? (10)
- 7 Weapons for groups of allied countries (4)
- 9 Potato salad's starter and dessert (4)
- 10 Are supported by top of bicycle without a saddle (10)
- 11 Gunners arrived before one shoots (6)
- 12 Republican outlier cooked up this dubious motive (8)
- 13 Protection from ocean's torment? (8)
- 15 Fragment reflected first volume of dictionary? (4)
- 17 Caught toy with bluff (4)
- 19 Buggy loses by getting wrinkles — an unattractive quality (8)
- 22 More fashionable when one wears crocodile, perhaps (8)
- 23 Spin, freeze and grind vegetable (6)
- 25 Morality provides argument against evidence-based knowledge (10)
- 26 Lightly stroke puppies under their tiny heads (4)
- 27 Large boats decapitated birds (4)
- 28 Fixed interest in gilts initially introduced by fund centrally (10)

## DOWN

- 2 Atone for former bandit lacking resistance (7)
- 3 Cool mould collected type of film (5)
- 4 Neutral peacekeepers deployed outside India (8)
- 5 Perhaps bitcoin's lucrative run collapses with cry (7,8)
- 6 More than one machine breaks down after ingesting foul smell (6)
- 7 Harmony one gets playing musical instrument (9)
- 8 Level 1, 3, 5, etc.? (4,3)
- 14 Pointers and icons incorporate letters (9)
- 16 Nothing here is rational (3,5)
- 18 What's concealed by sporran? Courtesy or malice? (7)
- 20 Punched with single glove (7)
- 21 Setting for motorway layout over top of underpass (6)
- 24 Express blame over primal urges (5)

## JOTTER PAD

Solution 17,297



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