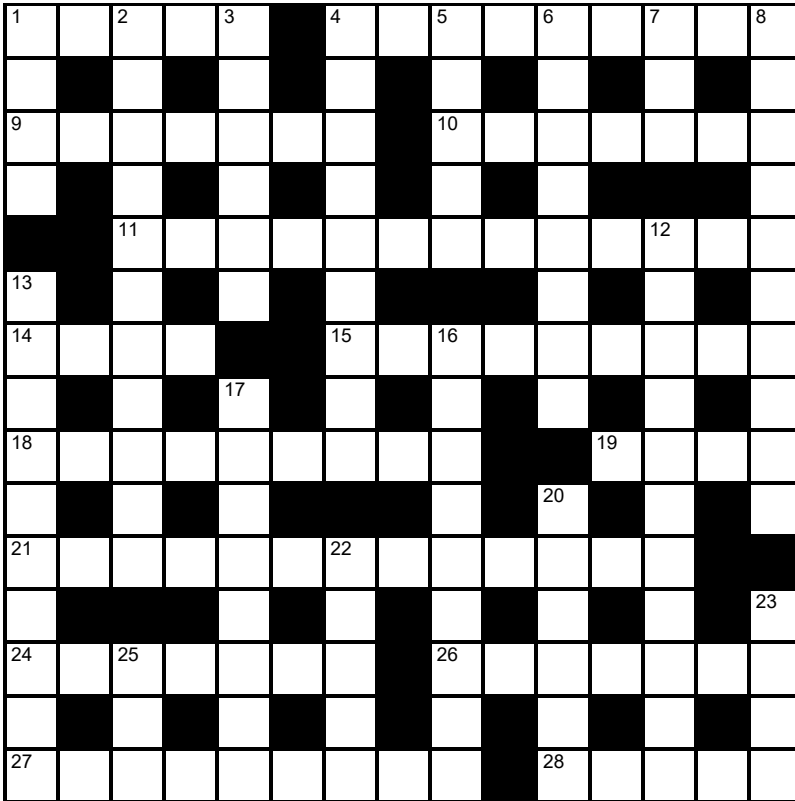


# CROSSWORD

No 17,320 Set by FALCON



Today marks the end of the Yule season

## ACROSS

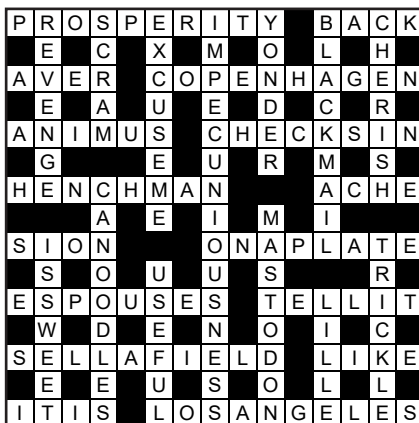
- 1 Small instrument for piercing (5)
- 4 Battle of Bacall playing opposite Gardner? (9)
- 9 Rest unhappy after cock-and-bull story (3,4)
- 10 Clothes are put to use, mostly outside (7)
- 11 Really bad deed by popular head (2,5,2,4)
- 14 Old comrade's precious stone (4)
- 15 Better than the others, broadcast about cave (1,3,5)
- 18 What's bound to put an end to children's game? (9)
- 19 Ingenuity required to secure right warrant (4)
- 21 Looted her in G&S comic opera (3,10)
- 24 Money husband lost in extremely ostentatious gambling clubs (7)
- 26 Longed for holiday finally merited (7)
- 27 Star in USA, proven in variety (9)
- 28 A diamond ring, returned in the end? (5)

## DOWN

- 1 Experienced sailor's dry wit (4)
- 2 Epic, *Marnie*, a staggering film (8,3)
- 3 Quick pint following concert (6)
- 4 Examination in German city, difficult ultimately for epicure (3,6)
- 5 Smallest in trouble astern (5)
- 6 Picture of primate in dreadful farce (4,4)
- 7 Make public appearance (3)
- 8 Measures completely OTT, imprisoning soldiers close to Christmas (10)
- 12 French toast, a toast never spread (1,5,5)
- 13 Bridge game? (10)
- 16 At college Halley reorganised a winter festival (2-5-2)
- 17 Type of glass church put in earlier (8)
- 20 Hawk heard landing on old pleasure craft (6)
- 22 Nightclub's jarring? Not half! (5)
- 23 Clue could be perfect, if shortened (4)
- 25 Hence parking concession (3)

## JOTTER PAD

Solution 17,319



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