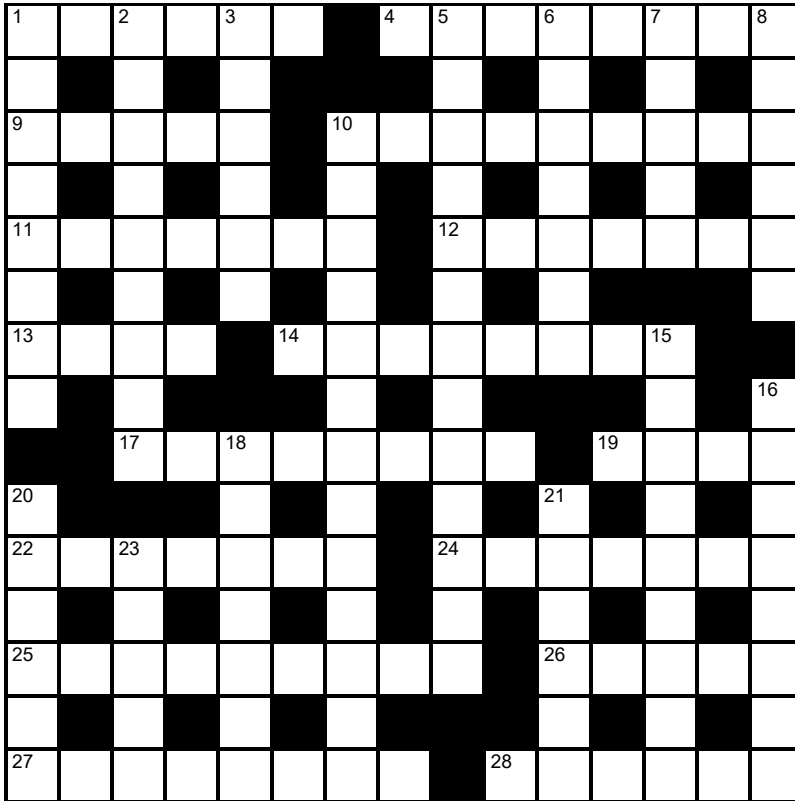


# CROSSWORD

No 17,344 Set by STEERPIKE



## ACROSS

- 1 American ship left Spain following essentially pointless skirmish (6)
- 4 Philosophical treatise written by graduate about society (8)
- 9 A former partner is said to be appropriate (5)
- 10 Expert tricks extremely uncivil governor (9)
- 11 Trendy joint starts to earn reputation on street (7)
- 12 Gifted crime boss dined with Democrat (7)
- 13 Mellow river that is crossing Portugal (4)
- 14 Defending regime in TV broadcast is extremely harmful (8)
- 17 Lesson about Scandinavian revolutionary protecting East German dissident (8)
- 19 Resent two letters, reportedly (4)
- 22 Stall inexperienced reporter, caught in elaborate lie (7)
- 24 Steerpike's favourite just discovered motivation (7)
- 25 Improvised reggae set is unexpected bonus (6,3)
- 26 Remove tackle from river in college grounds, primarily (5)
- 27 Learn from cultural reference involving old retired nobleman (8)
- 28 Prepare to run twisted experiment, say (3,3)

## DOWN

- 1 Crate mostly containing top of range whisky (8)
- 2 Bird from Norway captivated by melancholy musician (9)
- 3 Unknown factor in non-clerical types' negligence (6)
- 5 Family died partaking in winter sport? Horrific! (13)
- 6 Oddly, Tory measure is best (7)
- 7 A tragic heroine upheld virtue (5)
- 8 Commotion engulfing large English city (6)
- 10 Coin collectors cruelly pestering Mark (7-6)
- 15 Blend of ten rustic flavours (9)
- 16 Vision certainly embraced by rowing team (8)
- 18 New uniform meets with unambiguous sort of reaction (7)
- 20 High-pitched sound of note held in *Beat It* (6)
- 21 Penny gets in pickle for partner (6)
- 23 Bust crown of skull in explosion (5)

## JOTTER PAD

Solution 17,341

P	R	A	G	M	A	T	I	C	S	E	E	T	O
L	U	I	R	H	I	Q	B						
U	N	D	I	D	A	G	O	O	D	T	U	R	N
M	I	D	I	I	E	A	O						
B	O	T	T	L	E	N	E	C	K	F	L	U	X
	I	E	E	E	E	W	I						
P	R	O	B	A	T	E	S	H	A	M	P	O	O
R	N	G					T	R	U				
A	U	S	T	E	R	E	C	R	E	D	I	T	S
C		D	L	I	R	V							
T	Y	P	E	F	I	R	S	T	P	R	I	Z	E
I	L	J	T	T	R	L	L						
S	T	A	B	I	L	I	S	E	O	P	E	R	A
E	I	B	S	R	O	G	N						
D	O	D	G	E	M	A	N	S	F	I	E	L	D

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