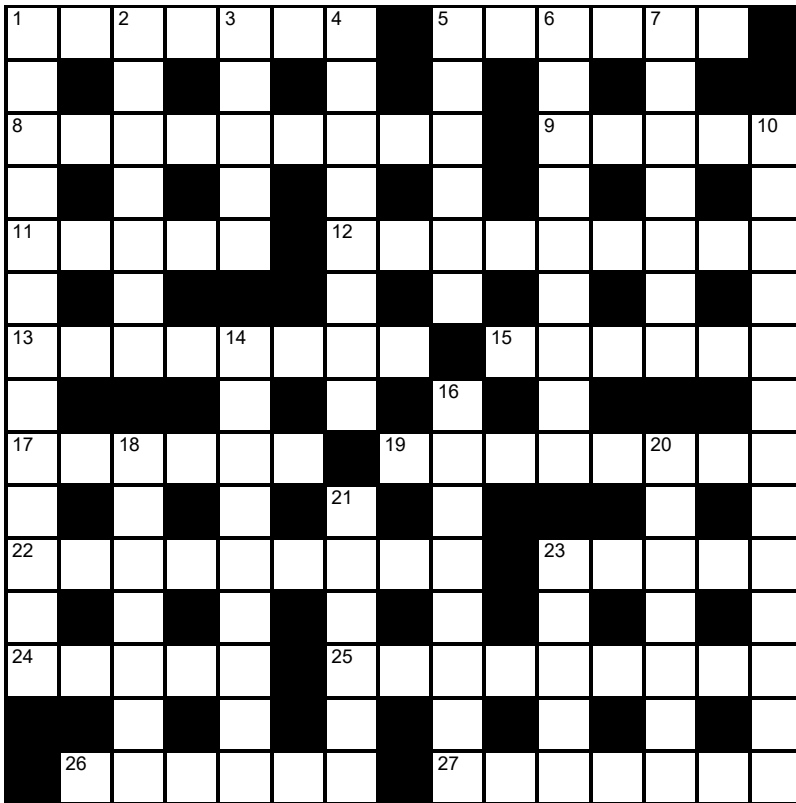


# CROSSWORD

No 17,345 Set by PETO



## ACROSS

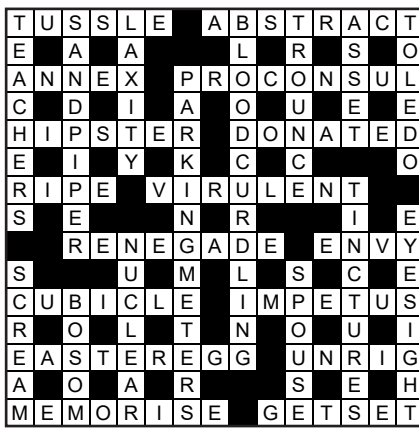
- 1 Recite poem skipping over assertion of truth (7)  
 5 Sour-tempered fictional detective arresting rotund character (6)  
 8 Moralist disturbed by knight's offence involving loss of grace (6,3)  
 9 A carriage sent back out of consideration (5)  
 11 Endlessly encountered in religious woman's guiding spirit (5)  
 12 Agreement concerned with protecting old musical instrument (9)  
 13 Tell of Dicky employing engineers without having to pay (4-4)  
 15 Peacekeepers on drugs reportedly for anxiety (6)  
 17 Unmitigated sanction wife ignored (6)  
 19 Systematic investigation concerning small church organ earlier (8)  
 22 Hypocritical after interrupting during Religious Education (9)  
 23 Dance company not available outside Gambia's capital (5)  
 24 Essential to expel emissions from resin used in varnish (5)  
 25 Replacement component's new strap packed by American salesman (5,4)  
 26 Robust scrutiny without resistance (6)  
 27 Extremely surprised by jar he'd initially disregarded (7)

## DOWN

- 1 Serving as proof in case involving deranged monster (13)  
 2 Chewy sweet stuff infused with absinthe originally by the Spanish (7)  
 3 Leading amateur gets to win for a second time (5)  
 4 Ill-judged post dividing opinion briefly (8)  
 5 Troublemaker regularly seen in club (6)  
 6 Adjust back row (9)  
 7 Leading performer almost capturing old Ugandan leader's enduring energy (7)  
 10 Easily moved boat on date he organised around the end of September (13)  
 14 More decorative hedges at home of big-time money manager (9)  
 16 List of dishes (including drink) served up by son of Spartan king (8)  
 18 Characteristic of sixth sense described by soldiers at court (7)  
 20 Fled with large bag of plunder (7)  
 21 Language unknown beyond Japan's principal island (6)  
 23 Belief in somewhat mediocre dogma (5)

## JOTTER PAD

Solution 17,344



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