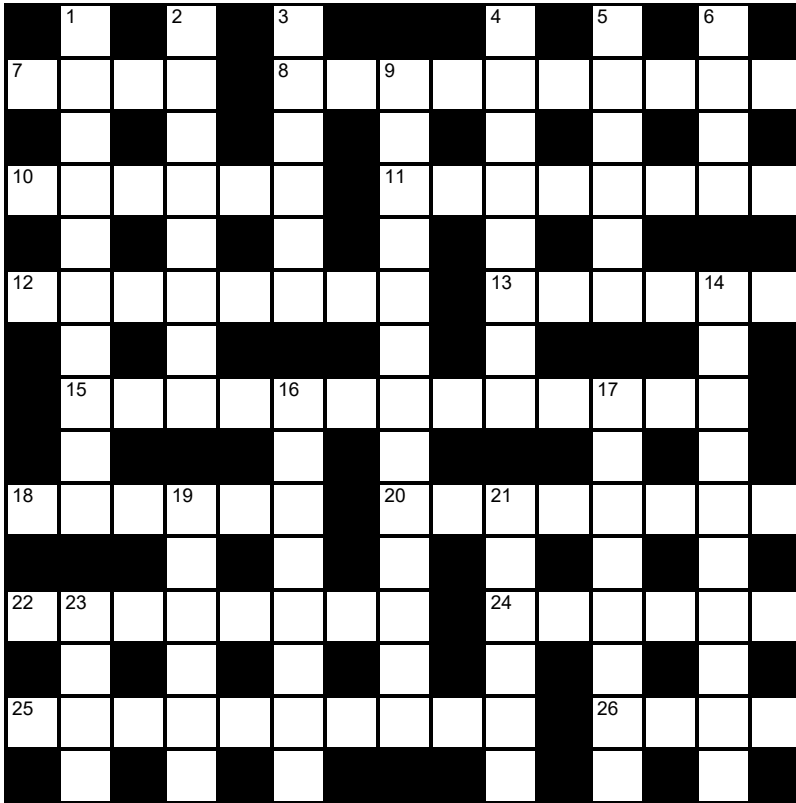


CROSSWORD

No 17,497 Set by SLORMGORM



ACROSS

- 7 What prompts one to talk when no-one's about? (4)
 8 Awfully tender men around area might provide it (10)
 10 One missing gear finds first passing turning horse (6)
 11 Sum being cracked by heads of Roedean and Eton (8)
 12 Female associated with wild turtles and bats (8)
 13 Everybody one's embracing close to armistice? (6)
 15 Messing about with diode, Brian Cox has a gas (6,7)
 18 Open slats primarily found on a French shack (6)
 20 How food can be served in an easily accessible way (2,1,5)
 22 Old politician (D) meeting with Middle-easterner (8)
 24 Plain selection of flipping hard nuts (6)
 25 Pants (if so called) in which the seams are picked? (10)
 26 Has EU's answer totally screwed leaders? (4)

DOWN

- 1 Trump? Concerning type who should be behind bars! (10)
 2 Small piece of office equipment one runs briefly (8)
 3 Mild-mannered chap heading for Lois Lane at last (6)
 4 Soprano who's not appeared with The Stones since childhood? (8)
 5 A bit of mumbling on spoken exam is unconscionable (6)
 6 One perhaps seen well tied up on a pirate ship? (4)
 9 Dolled up to get attention in a ninja outfit? (7,2,4)
 14 Group of people who might cross a politician? (10)
 16 Live near hot springs? I must jump in! (2,3,3)
 17 One could say Robinson Crusoe's darn lies in novel form (8)
 19 Durable trousers unravel in the end? Not at all! (6)
 21 A strain picked up could make you swear (6)
 23 I party with large bloke like Buddha (4)

JOTTER PAD

Solution 17,496



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