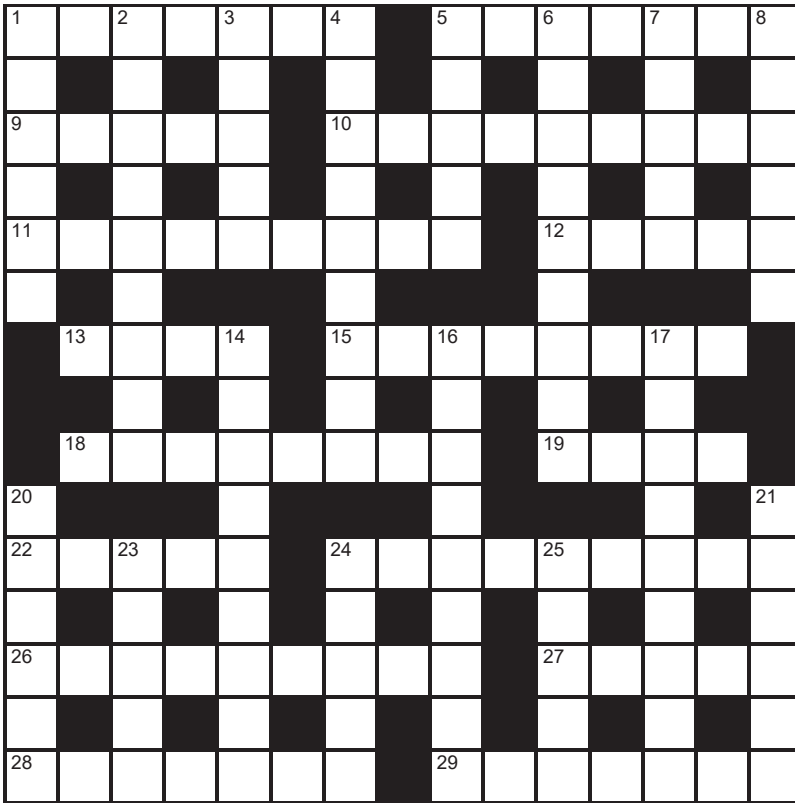


# CROSSWORD No 17,708 by BOBCAT



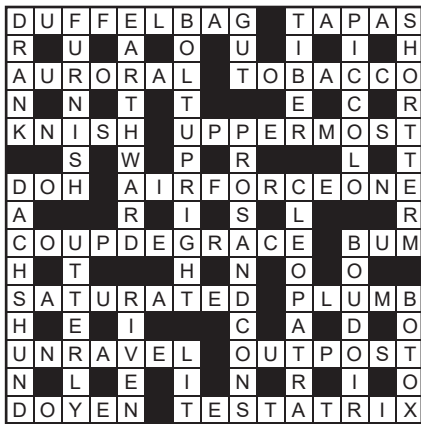
## ACROSS

- 1 Airports finally backing firm's provision for holding bays? (7)
- 5 Slav picks up the bill for beverage (7)
- 9 Routine smell of elements in water (2-3)
- 10 Ban voters actively taking notice (9)
- 11 A fractional element (half) of rotted manure is contaminated (9)
- 12 Cake of soap pensioner exchanged for ice cream (5)
- 13 One against worker independence at the outset (4)
- 15 Dutiful old boy to suffer in Lent, after losing head (8)
- 18 50% of audience inspired by my poetical distinction (8)
- 19 Title of annual removed from cover (4)
- 22 Reptile that may be seen in summer (5)
- 24 Overbearing woman, British PM, losing face, ultimately getting chop (6-3)
- 26 Student enters, making for lecture (7-2)
- 27 Foolish books on Amin? (5)
- 28 I determine make-up of obsessive personality traits unknown to saint (7)
- 29 Say 'Goodness!' to a boffin (7)

## DOWN

- 1 Enigmatist's special clue changed in the end (6)
- 2 Dealing with opponent by making him a demon? (2,7)
- 3 Bird in two hands worth one in the bush (5)
- 4 Endless chore cryptically suggested by this one on the farm? (9)
- 5 Model's more stylish without husband (5)
- 6 Spooner's hard hat that's controlling admittance? (9)
- 7 Merrymaking in airline terminated in 1970s — not before time (5)
- 8 Plane possibly following directions for course (6)
- 14 Urban centre is evidently where it's at (5,4)
- 16 Conductor to choose arrangement of Credo, not Cherubini's original (9)
- 17 Unsophisticated romantic's first meeting with rogue is taken into account (9)
- 20 Incantation depriving siren of power (6)
- 21 Joined Ted Heath out of bounds, cycled and cooked (6)
- 23 Character of French lieutenant essentially bad (5)
- 24 Grocer primarily stocking vegetable produce (5)
- 25 Telling tales such as 'piloting jets without a wing' (5)

Solution 17,706



## JOTTER PAD



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