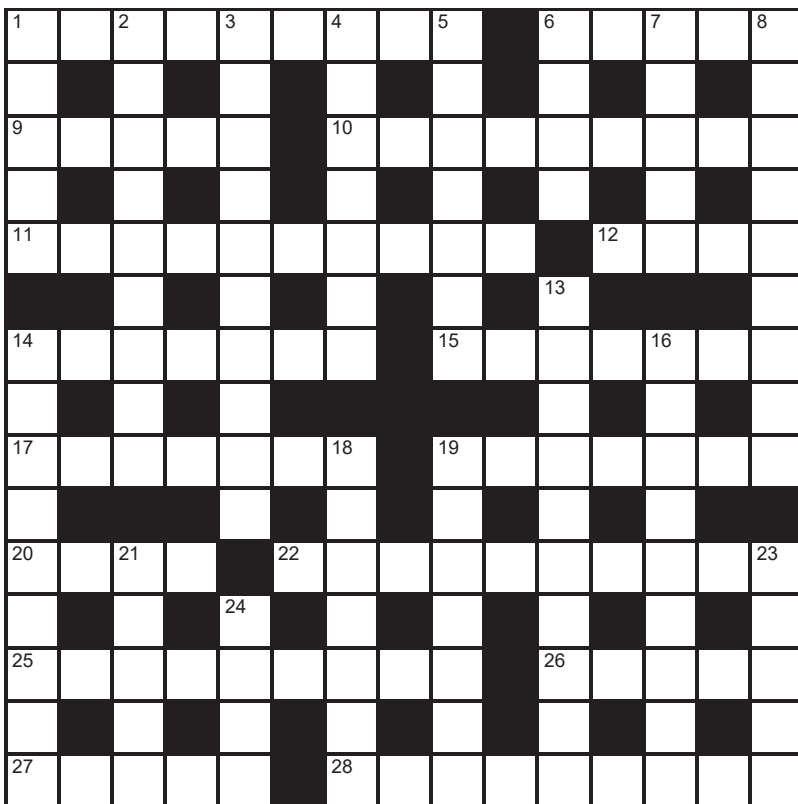


CROSSWORD No 17,721 by FALCON



ACROSS

- 1 Tolerated temperature in a bizarre botanical garden (9)
- 6 Daughter's after dainty material (5)
- 9 Beginning to devour a tea in Vladimir's country cottage? (5)
- 10 Bedcover we'd ironed badly (9)
- 11 Comic strip character close to Sweep stabbing nasty brute in back (6,4)
- 12 Rosemary, for one, in *Father Brown* (4)
- 14 Play moderately slowly with stake money (7)
- 15 Suspend boxer, perhaps showing a sense of guilt (7)
- 17 Conspicuous foreigner in street (7)
- 19 Quite some distance? It may be between tee and green (7)
- 20 Piece of information I came across in retirement (4)
- 22 Lawyer's dull speech unsettled court (10)
- 25 Found his stable out of form (9)
- 26 Hera losing husband to another goddess (5)
- 27 Rant I ignored in traffic (5)
- 28 Queen mother leaving country for Hope's place (9)

DOWN

- 1 Dread flying snake (5)
- 2 Renege on an earlier decision, and support new deal under pressure (4-5)
- 3 Long-tailed bird in way on river? (10)
- 4 Shake doctor heading for Lisbon in plane? (7)
- 5 Slander bishop at hospital for medical treatment (7)
- 6 Go for a spin (4)
- 7 Couple ultimately bound to run away to Gretna Green? (5)
- 8 Out of order, nudge guy astride black recreational vehicle (4,5)
- 13 Current record about E.T. may be ill-advised (10)
- 14 Like one on the wagon missing imbibing can (9)
- 16 One may be leaving Euston in blue coach (4-5)
- 18 Row about stray dog (7)
- 19 Mostly glowing about school chess champion (7)
- 21 Taken out of context, rapper added (5)
- 23 Dieter's OK after port wine (5)
- 24 Instrument that's blown in Bow boozier, regularly (4)

Solution 17,720

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

JOTTER PAD



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