

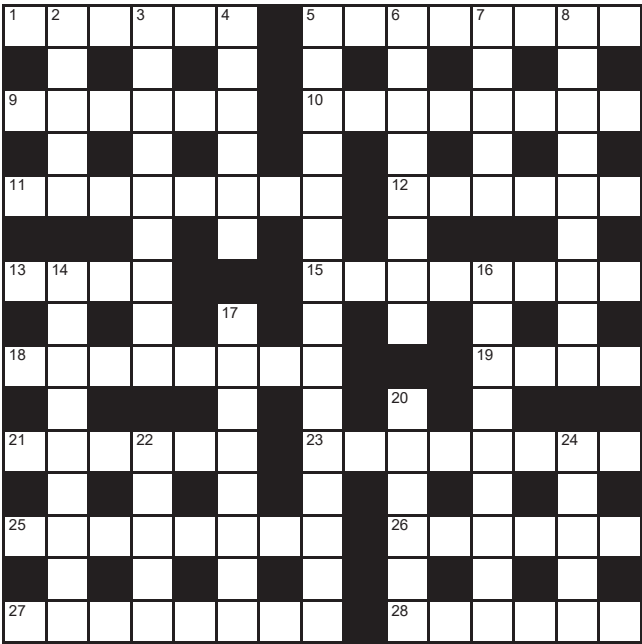
CROSSWORD 17,781 by BUCCANEER

ACROSS

- 1 American uncle keeps recalling respectful gesture (6)
- 5 Out-of-work cleric with red clothing of low quality (8)
- 9 Spicy rice cooked with cored tomato (6)
- 10 My swan's eating indefinite number of bits of cereal (8)
- 11 Friend of Harry Houdini guttlessly admits hesitation, taking drugs (8)
- 12 Attic at home filled with nothing by Scotsman (6)
- 13 Showed contempt in tiff (4)
- 15 Sailor's beginning with cold shower for on-board diversion (8)
- 18 Vacuous instrumentalists thus rushed back — they have trumpets (8)
- 19 Not even small probability (4)
- 21 Lawyer's incidentally in tight robe, drinking vermouth (6)
- 23 Tending to overprotect NHS in any reforms (8)
- 25 Asian cash primarily bought parts on new car (8)
- 26 Paid employee taking lead from trainee (6)
- 27 Tracks etc. to play with rock star in film (5,3)
- 28 Very soft hat is worn outside for a drink of alcohol (6)

DOWN

- 2 I agree to dispatch golf shot where eagles may be expected (5)
- 3 Finding inspiration hard in maths, act sick receiving paper (9)
- 4 Communist leader hosts British leader and Northern European leader (6)
- 5 Boffin has some salad — it's nicest tossed (6,9)
- 6 British runners from East London in hurdles (8)
- 7 Possibly preserved proto-Peruvian (5)
- 8 Acclaimed stores round Brighton's outskirts like Boots, sometimes (9)
- 14 Do improv in e.g. *The Winter's Tale*, with yen to stop Antigonus's pursuer (4,2,3)
- 16 Maybe the Tories blunder, turning up potential pitfall (5-4)
- 17 Good king taken in by cheats — they show a lot of cheek (1-7)
- 20 Where extremists might get together for cricket, say (6)
- 22 Satisfied about ostentatiously good players' speeds (5)
- 24 Son suffering in Hazel's coat? (5)



Solution 17,775

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



Scan the QR code for the monthly World puzzle, published on Sunday July 7, and to access FT crosswords over the last 30 days — cryptic, Polymath, Weekend and Sunday puzzles — on ft.com/crosswordapp