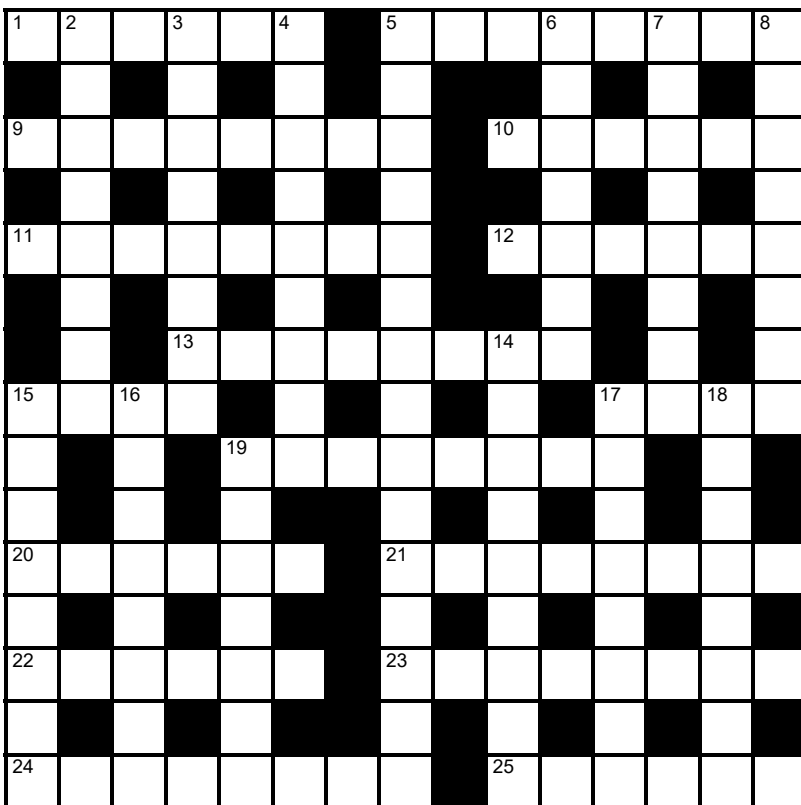


CROSSWORD No 17,827 by MONK



ACROSS

- 1 Fungus beginning to affect bulb that's left out (6)
- 5 Careless scuttle after ladies' underwear (8)
- 9 Slippery sort — American prisoner nothing holds (8)
- 10 Poles drinking unusually pale port (6)
- 11 Native Scandinavians entering petition (8)
- 12 Zulu endlessly declines stringed instrument (6)
- 13 New garden incorporates top-notch irrigation? (8)
- 15 Finally find baby wipes absorbing last of unmentionable stains (4)
- 17 Rush without finishing quarrel (4)
- 19 A number of bits and extra hard drills, incidentally (2,3,3)
- 20 The other one swims around fine island (6)
- 21 King once sadly aware about tense major conflict (5,3)
- 22 Definitely a silly rogue (3,3)
- 23 Chap who conveys celebrity bearing? (8)
- 24 Track back, scent being picked up? I've no idea (3,5)
- 25 Interminable moan surrounding extremely obscure gardening job (6)

Solution 17,826



JOTTER PAD

DOWN

- 2 Following a couple of drinks, setter's game (3,5)
- 3 Sporting legend briefly identified by VAR? (8)
- 4 Canteen cooking tips from ruby anniversary (9)
- 5 Lurking danger of Ken, in haste, freaking out on pot (5,2,3,5)
- 6 Sweet stuff to follow half a portion of seafood (7)
- 7 Haul out and jump across old exercise equipment? (4,4)
- 8 Deliberately damage Conservative pinned by journalist over bar (8)
- 14 Nonsense ultimately plaguing reversal of decline in Celtic language (9)
- 15 Relative bitten by docked wild dog — it's frightening (8)
- 16 Distinguished henna every so often on fake blonde (8)
- 17 Monk almost checks private group (8)
- 18 Ancient tongue from Kakinada translated (8)
- 19 Monarchy having sex in mind? (7)



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