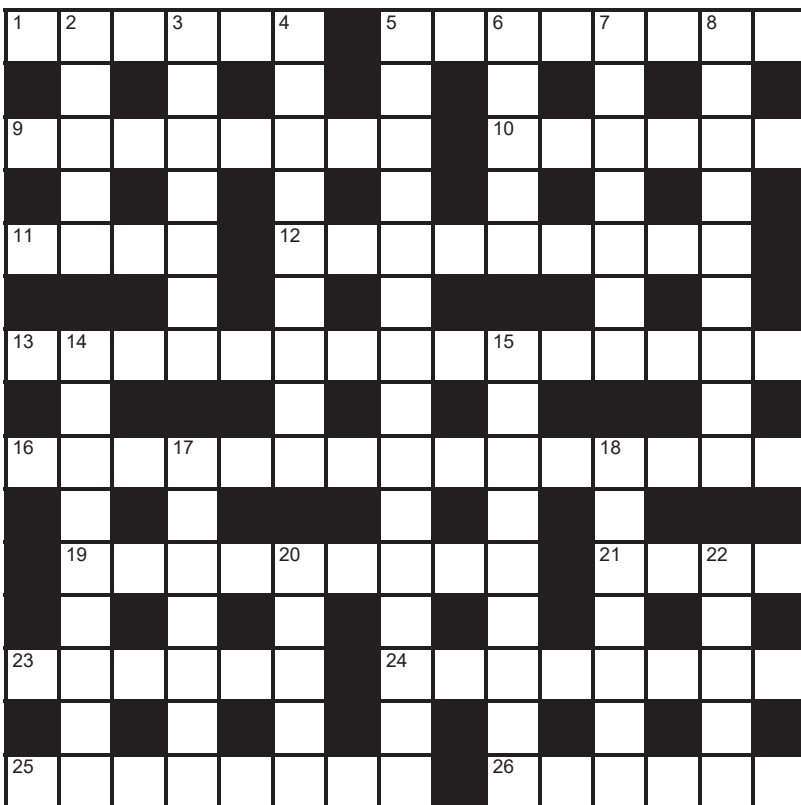


CROSSWORD No 17,887 by MONK



Solution 17,886

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



Scan the QR code to access FT crosswords over the last 30 days — cryptic, Polymath, Weekend and Sunday puzzles — or go to ft.com/crosswordapp

JOTTER PAD

ACROSS

- 1 Last traces of Black Country block walls in abandoned station (6)
- 5 So few, say, travelling ancient road (5,3)
- 9 Terribly clean lines through Spanish city (8)
- 10 Hint — start to price former editor's liquid asset? (4-2)
- 11 Large island, a result of volcanic activity, not the first seen by Japan (4)
- 12 Dog, overwhelmed by duties, bolted by river when recalled (2,7)
- 13 *Mercury* and *Venus* conclude with tweaked notes, ending in unusual pair (8,7)
- 16 One normally contributing to army manoeuvres? (9,6)
- 19 English supporter lying about cricket trophy talks incessantly to Australian (9)
- 21 Impartial judge, out of practice, losing case (4)
- 23 Imagine chap mostly consumed by passion (6)
- 24 Articulate 1970s rock band that Norman perhaps books (8)
- 25 Invasive plant, apparently medium or big in Scotland, discovered in middle of lockdown (8)
- 26 They give sign of assent, reversing old void rules (6)

DOWN

- 2 Blow in the manner of marsupial (5)
- 3 You and I climbing in holidays — one will be standing in mountain air (3,4)
- 4 Resists fine shelled food and drink (5,4)
- 5 Riding site made Balfour go off keeping a couple of horses (11,4)
- 6 Lecher brooded over attention in speech (5)
- 7 One stopping outside plot leaves shed light on (7)
- 8 Obsessed about bubbly coed getting tense narrative (9)
- 14 Countryman's wearing no pants (9)
- 15 Old cheese crackers dryish, oddly mellow (9)
- 17 Norm still scrubbing middle floor (7)
- 18 Core of virtuoso journalists stay for a day (7)
- 20 Tree expert tackles what's behind disease (5)
- 22 Equipment for detecting crime after boy comes forward (5)