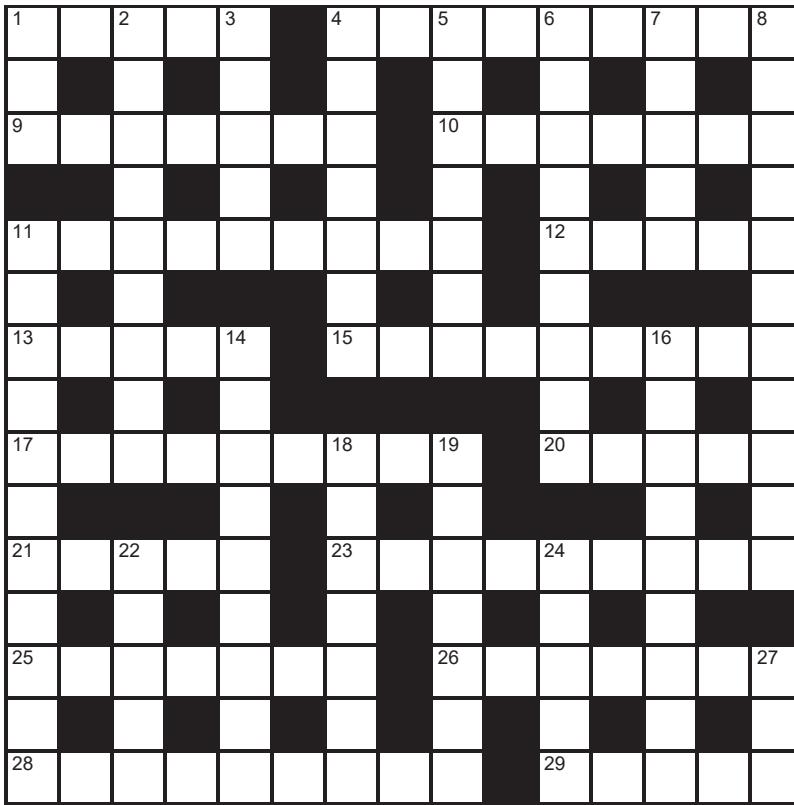
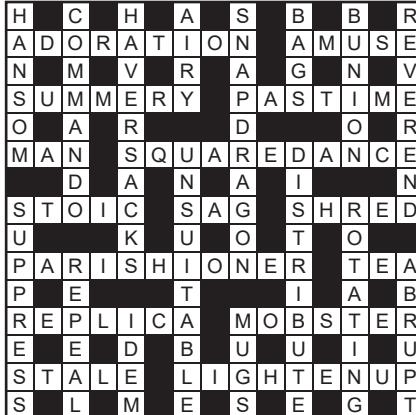


# CROSSWORD No 17,969 by XELA



Solution 17,968



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](http://ft.com/crosswordapp)

## ACROSS

- 1 A large amount of time in bed (5)
- 4 Displeased about having become popular with different audiences? (9)
- 9 Runner primarily favouring fairly lively, energetic music (7)
- 10 Slip with small jobs to be done (7)
- 11 Italy's best leader? (6,3)
- 12 Type of food preparation area in municipal building (5)
- 13 National Trust taking on number of people in solo and group work (5)
- 15 Odd rituals adopted by group of drivers down under (9)
- 17 Poet's old book and pen (4,5)
- 20 Literary inspiration provided by merry author regularly (5)
- 21 One hailed by a Liberal faction (5)
- 23 Distinctive fender, fit to be replaced (9)
- 25 No. 8, say, brought in by Serie A team (7)
- 26 A set of nice glasses initially lasting years? (7)
- 28 Game is new and not yet refined (6-3)
- 29 Pathetic person ultimately creates drama and unwanted aggro (5)

## DOWN

- 1 Somewhat persistent member of the family (3)
- 2 Oman Air is flying around Anatolia (4,5)
- 3 PM imbibes fine, healthy drink (5)
- 4 A trick account set up gives pause (7)
- 5 Demanding individual runs pop-ups occasionally (7)
- 6 Excessive load of fish caught in big wave (9)
- 7 Meat full of nitrogen is easily bought (5)
- 8 Cook as a rule not including hot spice mix (3,2,6)
- 11 Indistinguishable reproduction of second print (11)
- 14 Excellent trip given by revolutionary drug (3-6)
- 16 Large facility next to hospital with dated rented property (9)
- 18 Weather is less than good until the halfway point (7)
- 19 Supplied sustenance to overturn recent collapse (7)
- 22 Barrel of water close to one isolated hill (5)
- 24 Quits competitions after losing heart at the end (5)
- 27 Sentimentality is mostly acceptable (3)

## JOTTER PAD