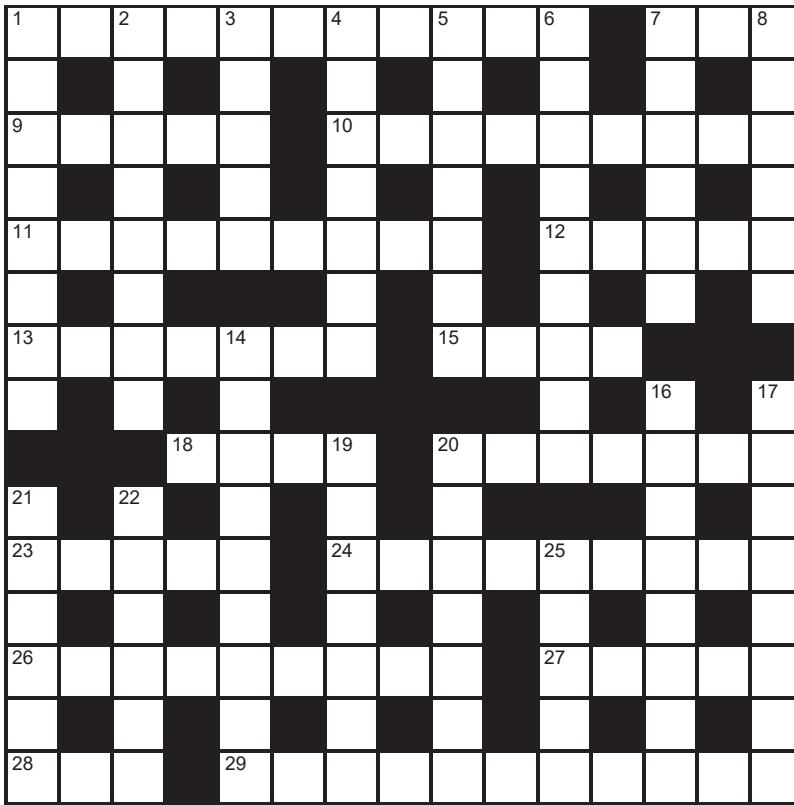


CROSSWORD No 17,977 by PETO



Solution 17,975



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

ACROSS

- Part of poem on spiteful woman facing a calamity (11)
- Blue sky at first today (3)
- Relaxed game of cards with a couple from Seoul (5)
- Amiable Frenchman taken aback by bribe (9)
- Not emotionally involved with anyone like Frank (5-4)
- Clip the wings of most important foreigner (5)
- Do without earl appealing (7)
- The principal function of diplomacy (4)
- Dress rehearsal's opening feeds gossip (4)
- Dad with hint of listlessness stops using lead frying pan (7)
- Excel when no longer in party (5)
- Be responsible for talker of nonsense about love (4,5)
- Mindful of taint Eve developed over time (9)
- Peculiar charm of article on artist receiving award (5)
- Evident in anarchism associated with that fellow (3)
- Devils meeting resistance in art gallery show (11)

DOWN

- Unfriendly measures causing loss of confidence (4,4)
- Row over warning device becoming more unpleasant (8)
- Quick to discard piece of pie when out of sorts (5)
- Soldiers present in keep (7)
- Stop parking right outside flat (7)
- Daughter behind door spellbound (9)
- Be absorbed in last of games at home with relatives (4,2)
- Fearless lawyer going after gang? Just the opposite (6)
- Dour and nervous crossing north-eastern plain (9)
- Supplication to curb mythical god's excess (8)
- Bearing the cost of conveyance (8)
- Country bumpkin's original letter turned up in support of the Spanish soldier (7)
- Mercurial prince leaves during middle of song (7)
- Drug like heroin found in plant nutrient (6)
- Tabulated numerical facts about university's standing (6)
- American gin served up separately (5)

JOTTER PAD