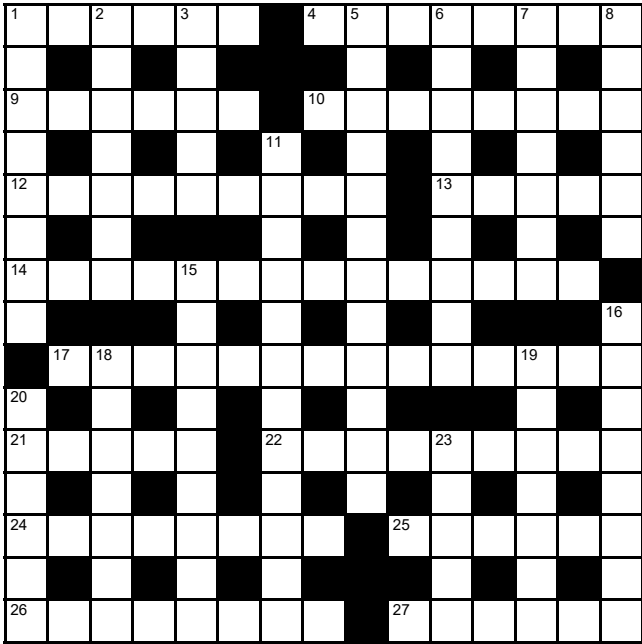# CROSSWORD 17,982 by JULIUS

ACROSS

1 Middle East money beginning to transform old part of Venice (6)

4 Like I have underwear trapped, likely to cause chafing (8)

9 Minority backing Greg anonymously gathers (6)

10 Careless hit & run? (8)

12 False 9 cries foul (9)

13 Papers I am taking on over non-standard language (5)

14 One issuing orders to support Spanish car buyer? (8,6)

17 High-ranking official coach from Australia eating yellow fruit (8,6)

21 Second husband starts to regret eloping with a harridan (5)

22 Inevitably, Muses tend to stray (5,4)

24 Make resentful compiler put back beer (8)

25 Luxury vehicle crossing road (6)

26 ITV3 regularly cut out during service — insomniacs depend on it! (8)

27 Clean the rioja bottling plant partially (6)

DOWN

1 Currency Mr Benn used touring India and Italy? (8)

2 Likely to forget morning, since drunk (7)

3 No fool getting upset, cross (5)

5 Theatrical performer allowed daughter, 18, to go outside (6-6)

6 Sound equipment provided one fuller surrounds (9)

7 Record label turned against plugging Lennon song (7)

8 Bring up former philosopher (6)

11 Wasting extra seconds in possession infuriates sports team (5,7)

15 Waitrose ad I cut out exchangeable for soft drink (4,5)

16 Don (Republican) — following enticement — receiving shock therapy (8)

18 Adult Balkan national swallows a bit of brandy in tumbler (7)

19 Support Leon who wrote Japanese drama — gripping! (7)

20 English meet up after initially showing respect (6)

23 Fry small shrimp out of river (5)

Scan the QR code for the FT's Numbers puzzle, published on Sunday February 23, and to access FT crosswords over the last 30 days — cryptic, Polymath, Weekend and Sunday puzzles — or go to ft.com/crosswordapp

Solution 17,975

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