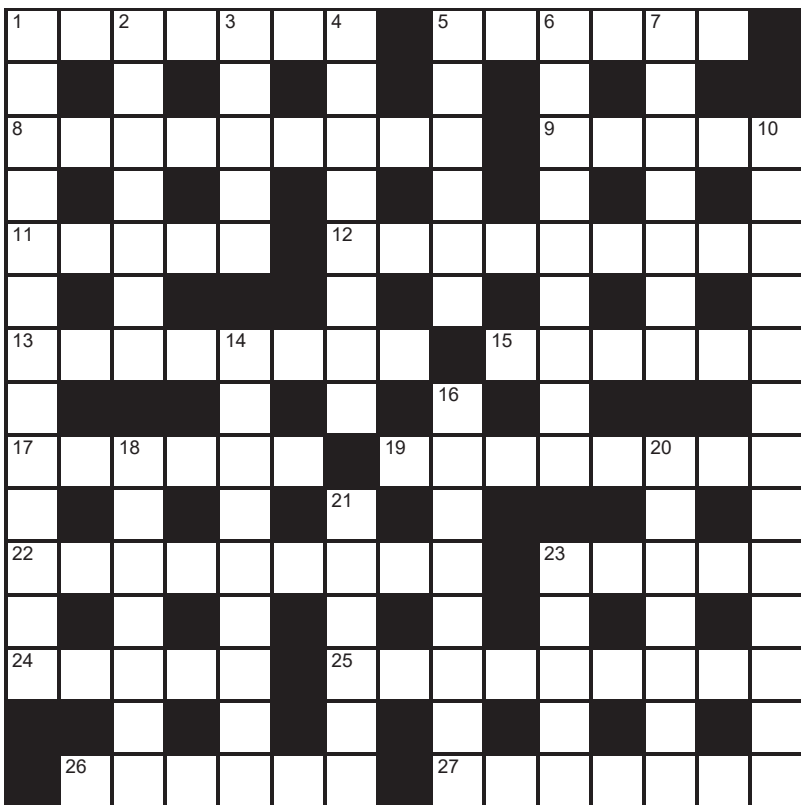


CROSSWORD No 17,990 by AARDVARK



ACROSS

- 1 Amend florid clothing that overlaps (7)
- 5 Make small dumpling when empty (2,4)
- 8 Arcade game completely captivating Bill (American) (4-1-4)
- 9 Musical genre introduced by singular child (5)
- 11 Smell maintains focus of boa constrictor (5)
- 12 Proverbial company car Edgar unloaded — like this type? (9)
- 13 Island's paper money bank recounted (8)
- 15 Is it taking residence around sink, getting a recoil? (6)
- 17 Having problems with present regulars in Mayfair spot (2,1,3)
- 19 Voracious foreign correspondent, say, in extremities of Greenland (8)
- 22 Image with old king, during pillage, that's holding mace? (5,4)
- 23 Dave's partner engaging Peugeot's first gear (5)
- 24 Flipping amateur disturbs an antelope (5)
- 25 Hearing Victor's excluded from latest conversation on Zoom? (9)
- 26 Check on homes (4,2)
- 27 An arm and a leg laid out for this game? (7)

Solution 17989

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

JOTTER PAD

DOWN

- 1 Comedian visiting relative to obtain family tree above all (5,8)
- 2 Party involving scrap on drive (7)
- 3 Wipe out insurgent in Bruges area (5)
- 4 Mum eggs on bigwig to leave quickly (5,3)
- 5 Wanderer touring Spain lifted spirit (6)
- 6 Paint detective capturing current mood (9)
- 7 Successive characters in despair initially dyeing fabric (7)
- 10 US writer's lodger spending half time with robust mug of beer (8,5)
- 14 Get angry with flash champion blocking volley (5,4)
- 16 Female entertained by style of jazz pianist? One could get hooked (8)
- 18 A barrier enclosing PC World's alarm (7)
- 20 Filling publication with priest looking heavenwards? (7)
- 21 Man in navy and brown pattern (6)
- 23 Pass middle of zone where irrigation sometimes done (5)



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