

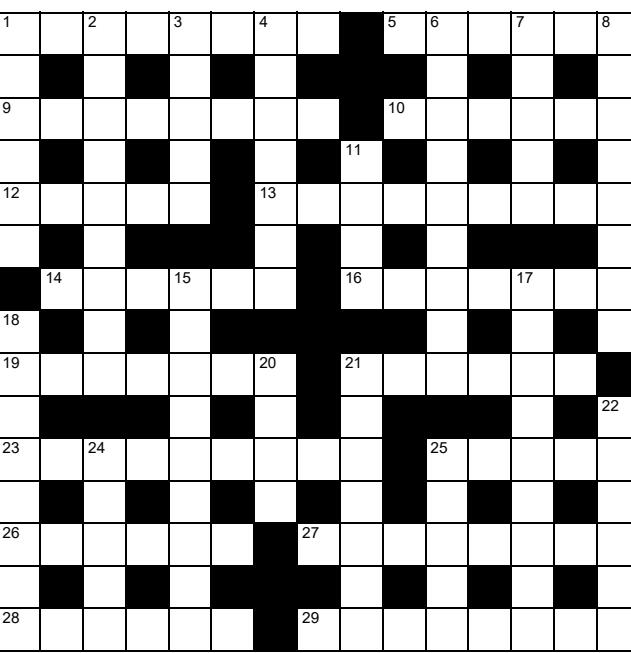
CROSSWORD 17,994 by NEO

ACROSS

1 See 5
 5/1 Corrupt Hughes to get VIP pass (4,2,3,5)
 9 Dramatist succeeded with *Best Shakespearean Cat*
 10 Student bends over in uncontrolled expansion (6)
 12 Hostile yankee served with nut and mutton (5)
 13 Describe old make-up case (9)
 14 In moonlight this poet wrestles with hog (6)
 16 Soldier of misfortune to back suffering love (7)
 19 Go on piano — make short hard sounds (7)
 21 Later life of good ale a round missed badly (3,3)
 23 16's victim some French fiend initially assailed
 25 Walk for days early in the year (5)
 26 Sheepish male returned drink allowance (6)
 27 Such as Emilia to 23 around home? Unlucky (8)
 28 Writer brings a lobster-trap into church (6)
 29 Northerner's distressed damsel with a knight (8)

DOWN

1 Not so much a time to raise hanging threads (6)
 2 Oresteia somehow packs in 100 mysterious items (9)
 3 Dwarf very soft grass covers (5)
 4 Old Syrian people hospitalised? (7)
 6 Called into question, force endlessly hurt (9)
 7 Weapon up before court causing bleed (5)
 8 Coward Oscar in place with Scottish links (8)
 11 Manipulative 13 in 16, one needing a wee ... (4)
 15 ... sword pushed in so far? Absolutely! (2,3,4)
 17 Power in maths Mr Goliath repurposed (9)
 18 Plague's long story the same Roman interrupts (8)
 20 Lover bowed runs into Dawn (4)
 21 Air on with AC needing fix — something blown (7)
 22 Centaur Club supports check (6)
 24 Say street fight isn't very good? (5)
 25 Pipe connects with Eastern State (5)



Solution 17,988

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



Scan the QR code for the monthly World puzzle, published on Sunday March 9, and to access FT crosswords over the last 30 days — cryptic, Polymath, Weekend and Sunday puzzles — on ft.com/crosswordapp