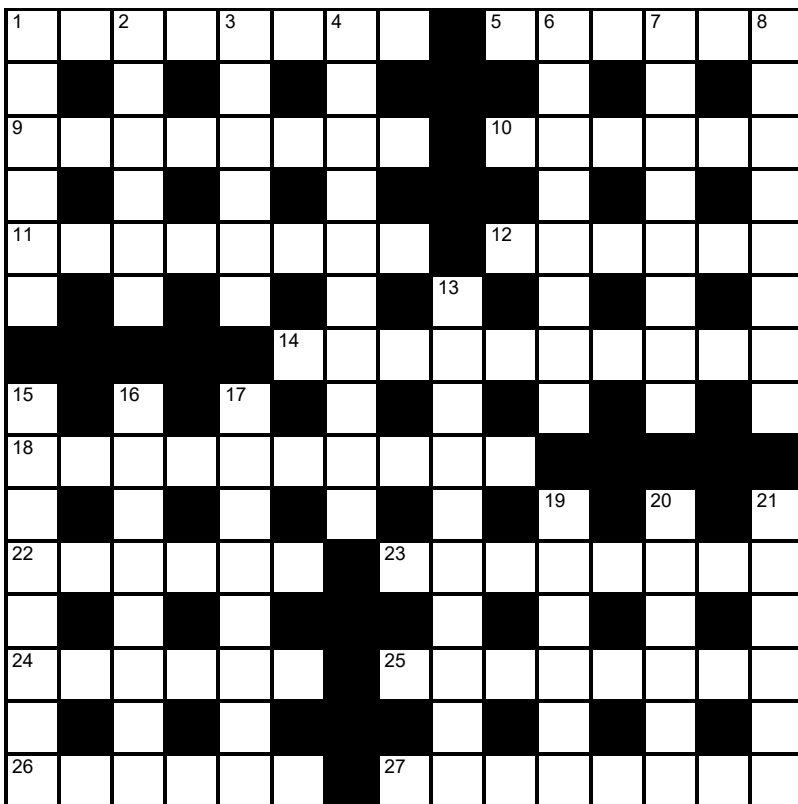


# CROSSWORD No 17,996 by PETO



## ACROSS

- 1 Worthless son accepting stories I dismissed as unfounded (8)
- 5 Rick suffering primarily from piles (6)
- 9 Draw near on account of earlier defeat (8)
- 10 Gangster bound to return with a Spanish dish (6)
- 11 Unlikely story of tasteless articles featuring students and beer! (4,4)
- 12 Bottom discovers what's involved in difficult situation (6)
- 14 Kind of soldiers to ignore argument against crossing river of biblical texts (10)
- 18 Spike getting adequate amount of rent (10)
- 22 Rummages around small sleeping places (6)
- 23 Dependent on chance drink with a Conservative (8)
- 24 Chinese dog sent back with a psychological problem (4-2)
- 25 Cleopatra perhaps unsettling tiny page (8)
- 26 Home of Ethelred's wife it includes Tewkesbury essentially (6)
- 27 Begin with brilliant solicitor (5,3)

## DOWN

- 1 Following disgrace Athos regularly gets drunk (6)
- 2 Hard to be secretive over support (6)
- 3 Find Joyce oddly failing to interrupt recently (6)
- 4 Easiness of heartless spy holding captive without question (10)
- 6 Distorted representation of very arty set cavorting outside (8)
- 7 Lines in support of dog being mine (8)
- 8 Careless hit-and-run (8)
- 13 Electric indicator showing jockey weighing relatively little (5,5)
- 15 Her wiles endlessly intriguing after Cowley's earliest satirical verse (8)
- 16 Written reports of profit sharing at the outset (8)
- 17 Stick out for the original blue (8)
- 19 Priest describing more than enough left out to spoil (6)
- 20 Irish singer embracing Italian swimmer (6)
- 21 Extremely costly bit of gear to catch young bird (6)

Solution 17,995

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

## JOTTER PAD



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