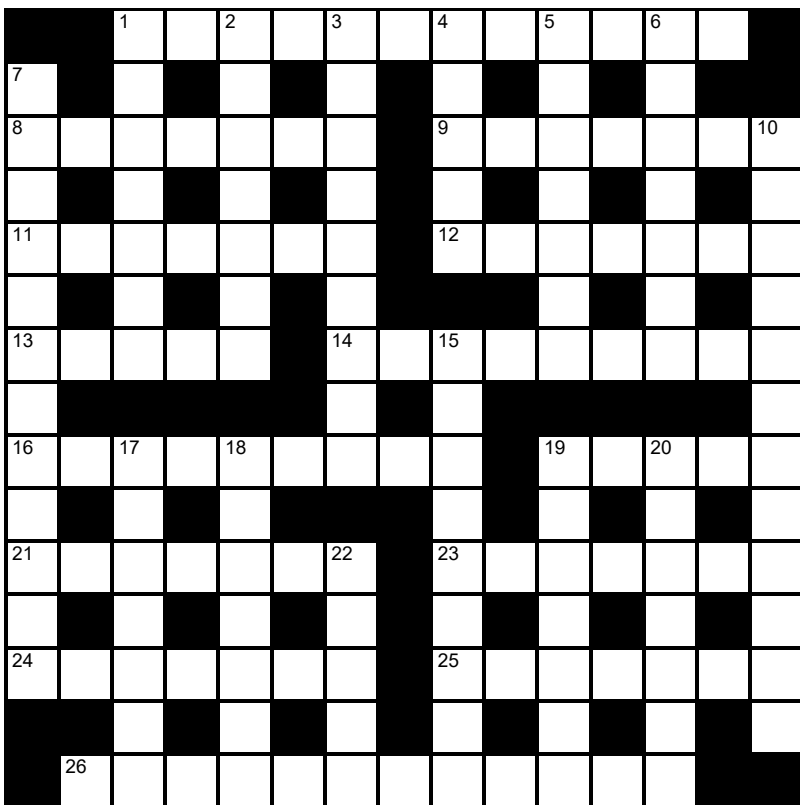


CROSSWORD No 17,998 by GUY



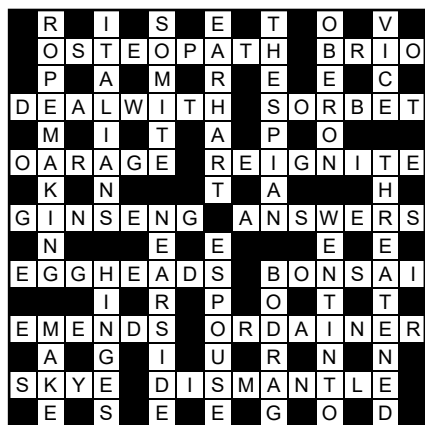
ACROSS

- 1 Dog dirt and nothing else keeps Georgia grumpy (12)
- 8 Hot relaxing place, reflected by bar and hotel bill (7)
- 9 A little Bonjela gel on gums lasting forever (7)
- 11 Weird stuff to do with ears in short test (7)
- 12 Head of the Academy showing Oscar-winning war film (7)
- 13 Seabirds pass over again to the west (5)
- 14 Bother covering green with yellow? One might be asked to (9)
- 16 Bloody bar brawl about syntax? (4,5)
- 19 Dissident book covered with tape wound round and round (5)
- 21 Old lady marks animal with a death's head — epic! (7)
- 23 Applying customs, America beginning to upset friendly nation (7)
- 24 Moving in range? (7)
- 25 Towering city with elegant past (7)
- 26 Commentator's right to stand by boxer (12)

DOWN

- 1 Calcium cook often upped in queen's diet? (3,4)
- 2 More swanky citizenry relocated out of NYC, following Republican (7)
- 3 Lectured at university in plaits (9)
- 4 Get hold of government file (5)
- 5 Prison entertained by love song outside (4-3)
- 6 Concern finding king asleep beneath throne (7)
- 7 Jack called Jill, perhaps a male bone was broken (4,8)
- 10 Religious leaders tormented legendary Son (7,5)
- 15 Speck of blood, page with crumbs on — strange clues (9)
- 17 Messy look of strange wizard (7)
- 18 General expert starts on oranges — lots of pith (7)
- 19 Spirited Romeo's outside taking drugs (7)
- 20 Provincial capital's reported beauty unlikely to fade (7)
- 22 Viking in the papers I see twirling pike (5)

Solution 17,997



JOTTER PAD



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