

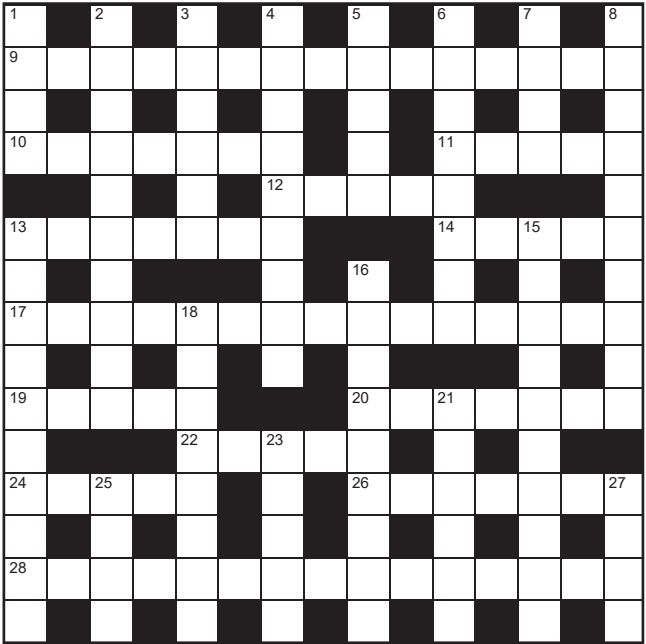
CROSSWORD 18,208 by NEO

ACROSS

DOWN

- 9** With ten howler monkeys around, about to capitulate? (5,2,3,5)
10 Sceptic is entertained by Mad Hatter endlessly (7)
11 Carefully examining wingless bird (5)
12 At first they were all nervy — finally showing pluck (5)
13 Feminist writer dressing as biker (7)
14 Spain stole Brit's last vessel (1-4)
17 Elusive creature left knight among radge Scots horsemen (4,4,7)
19 Service in French is for German artist (5)
20 Modify by blending a paint (7)
22 Drive round with zero speed (5)
24 Live wire securing pole killed person (5)
26 Explosive snores around midnight capture attention (7)
28 Poem in article with wonderful humour (3,6,6)

- 1** Characters returned from enchanted mountain (4)
2 Cleric's waggish academic keeping company (10)
3 Hopes for area neighbouring Western Isles (6)
4 Financial product one thing to have faith in (4,5)
5 Muslim kind restraining very destructive deity (5)
6 Armoured fish finally out to break bones (8)
7 Deck cleaner was injured close to pub (4)
8 Arrange song about extraterrestrial orneries? (10)
13 Strait in Donegal almost gets stormy (6,4)
15 Those prone, possibly near to collapse (2,3,5)
16 Suppressed old woman in southeast died (9)
18 NZ Rail in evil nonsense about going north (8)
21 Bar one, wise men understood larval form (6)
23 Saw an early machine gun (5)
25 Creator of dynamite book coming out for Xmas (4)
27 Hellish river flows no more from mouth? (4)



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Solution 18,202

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