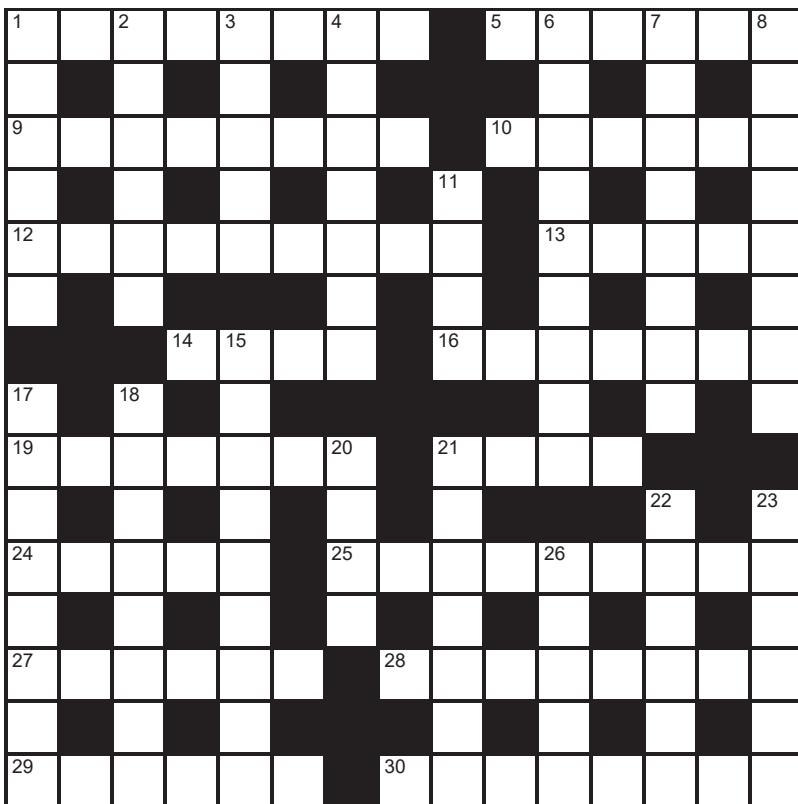


CROSSWORD No 18,213 by STEERPIKE



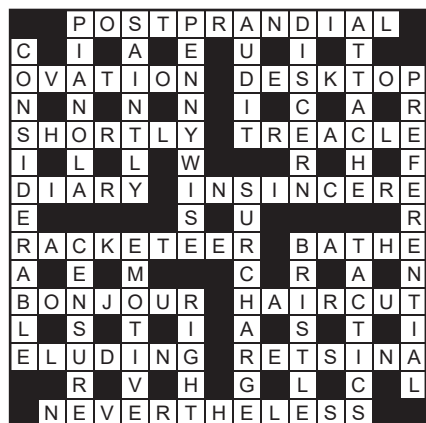
ACROSS

- 1 Essentially thump ball around with very funny racket (8)
- 5 Admits taking sample from downtown supermarket (4,2)
- 9 Denying container is in harbour, endlessly (8)
- 10 Graphic travel document entertains upper-class Liberal (6)
- 12 Former partner picked up quality weapon (9)
- 13 Rocket engaging new navigation system (5)
- 14 Small dog circling large seal (4)
- 16 Criminal investigators set about understanding Serbia's foremost author (7)
- 19 Debauched model forsaken by deity (7)
- 21 Beginning to hone ancient wrestling technique (4)
- 24 Discovered tree behind Arizona University providing shade (5)
- 25 Established scout corrupted virgin (9)
- 27 Opening remarks of gaunt, arresting officer (4-2)
- 28 Lashing out about Unionist flag (8)
- 29 Formal dissertation denied top grade by doctor (6)
- 30 Abandon aircraft before it turns south over pole (8)

DOWN

- 1 Retired sailor regularly grilled last of mouldy food (6)
- 2 Duty of fellow US immigration agents (6)
- 3 Stolen French article turned up in lodgings (5)
- 4 Spooner's outlawed witch's accessory (7)
- 6 His claim about supporting wife is fanciful (9)
- 7 Waste several soldiers patrolling northern English river (8)
- 8 Divide capital, holding nothing back from powerful earl (8)
- 11 Golf shown on free network (4)
- 15 Cleaner is sacked for criminal acts (9)
- 17 Incapacitated attorney maintains Italians on vacation spilt blood (8)
- 18 Cut off from boundless grounds of university gallery (8)
- 20 Securely shut up in redbrick college (4)
- 21 One who's taken large number over long period (7)
- 22 Precepts a revolutionary associate included in manuscript (6)
- 23 Extremely pointy ends of teeth on serpent (6)
- 26 Desperate to hug auxiliary (5)

Solution 18,212



JOTTER PAD



Scan the QR code to access FT crosswords over the last 30 days — cryptic, Polymath, Weekend and Sunday puzzles — or go to ft.com/crosswordapp