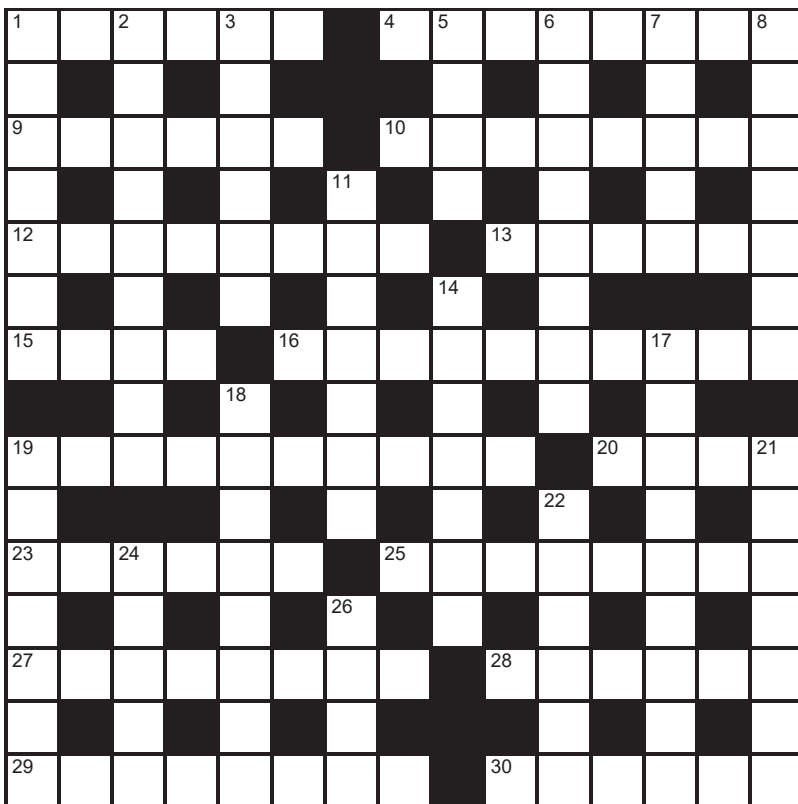


CROSSWORD No 18,271 by GAFF



An 80th birthday puzzle

ACROSS

- 1 Starter cheers athletes, nearly all passing early leaders (6)
- 4 Servant bound to be set back for country's balance (5,3)
- 9 Judge fashionable new leader of realm (6)
- 10 Bottle emptied before party becomes thrash (8)
- 12 Working pony went cheap (8)
- 13 Consider odd boot protection in the garden (6)
- 15 Key to university (4)
- 16 4.51 shift (4-2-4)
- 19 Speechless at fair caricature (4,6)
- 20 Pickle mix (4)
- 23 Order member's home to be covered with rubbish (6)
- 25 Old drivers lost in conflicts (8)
- 27 Unlucky to be poorly celebrated on the radio (3-5)
- 28 Woman hit by 24 (6)
- 29 Pitch after openers' foundation (8)
- 30/7 Sunscreen award? (6,5)

Solution 18,269

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

JOTTER PAD

DOWN

- 1 Tony Curtis' half confused state (7)
- 2 You're welcome to express pleasure holding investigation about Michael Foot (2,7)
- 3 Drink carrier (6)
- 5 Fancy-free hazard (4)
- 6 Compass provides spacemen with last gasp help to return (8)
- 7 See 30 Across
- 8 A lot included in cut down first instalment (4,3)
- 11 Cutting bone with zinc is ordinarily involved (7)
- 14 Stony cold roast (7)
- 17 First tie handle in a knot (2,3,4)
- 18 Many misplay tuba and horn finale (8)
- 19 Report man in crane (7)
- 21 Not oriental spaghetti perhaps (7)
- 22 Gaudy, strong-hearted clown (6)
- 24 Toy truck (5)
- 26 Principal dancer enjoys all-new overtures (4)



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