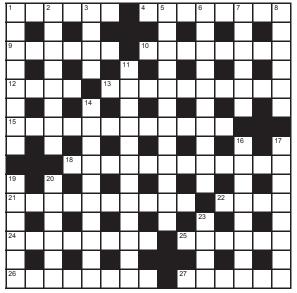
CROSSWORD No. 16,388 Set by WANDERER



JOTTER PAD

ACROSS

- 1 Breaking into bundle of notes, set off to get very drunk (6)
- 4 Saint Christopher? Sporting this, when nervous and easily scared (8)
- **9** PC Plod's tip: suspect a plot at first (6)
- **10** After small drink, daughter did something dotty (8)
- **12** Sailor paid upfront for protective cover (4)
- **13** Burning bush initially featured in Milton work? Wrong – in OT! (10)
- **15** End with what might be a fine sentence (5,7)
- **18** Masterpieces from cooks badly overdue (5-7)
- **21** One politician with base longing for what some think Trump needs? (10)
- 22 Somewhat poor female swimmer (4)
- 24 The Spanish books cover heartless ruler that's fluently persuasive (8)
- **25** Upheaval in corporation last month (6)
- **26** Have another look at animals kept in reserve briefly (8)
- 27 Characteristic content of sugar in African country (6)

DOWN

- 1 Bustle previously springloaded? (4-2-2)
- **2** Great 11, perhaps, for what 1 down might pay (8)

- **3** Dress up as an archbishop (4)
- **5** Surfing before getting on plane (12)
- **6** Printing machine of sort used by Wanderer? (10)
- 7 Treated nail one with diamonds embedded (6)
- 8 Drawing a veil over bad defeat (6)
- **11** Formal show of appreciation, given actor playing R Langdon's cross? (4,2,6)
- **14** N American state capital: third of visits for man's best friends (10)
- 16 Capsize public vessel (8)
- **17** Dine with mate suffering form of insanity (8)
- **19** One-dimensional storyteller touring Geordieland (6)
- **20** Problem sleeping? One surprisingly found in alpha male relative (6)
- 23 Cake, good for a bribe (4)

Solution 16,387

