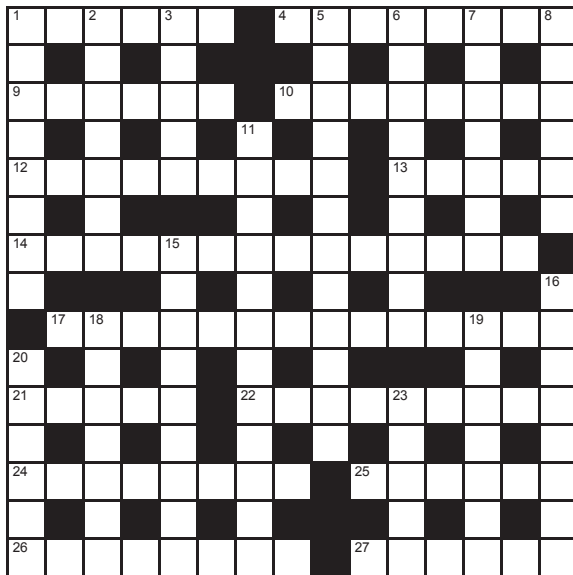


CROSSWORD

No. 15,756 Set by FALCON



ACROSS

- 1 Composed, lawyer heading for tribunal in diocese (6)
- 4 A worried couple endlessly ringing about a place in Mexico (8)
- 9 Showing intelligence by keeping control in the auditorium (6)
- 10 Take part in an activity on water, and risk a wet undoing (5-3)
- 12 Hush-hush operations in Crete upset head of tourism (3-6)
- 13 Oscar managed to acquire good instrument (5)
- 14 An American, Ness, incorrectly depicted in comedy film (11,3)
- 17 Sketch on packaging (14)
- 21 Type of necktie a Caledonian may produce (5)
- 22 G-man chose fancy dress (9)
- 24 Grave next to tree will get immediate attention (5,3)
- 25 Deny any connection with row surrounding broadcast (6)
- 26 Skilled workers, Arthur and Ian, carrying small spades (8)
- 27 Suspension of business in bay (6)

DOWN

- 1 Sorry tale of old boy on board, Conservative (3,5)
- 2 Departed on vessel, expressionless (7)
- 3 Under emotional strain in past, perhaps (5)
- 5 Resort town – clubs, note, in lively coastal one (7-2-3)
- 6 Remarkable things – the old man describes number collected by macho males (9)
- 7 Pasta dish from Los Angeles – long story involving name (7)
- 8 In error, I entered the countries of the east (6)
- 11 Annoyed over department providing a representative sample (5-7)
- 15 Bothers Irish artiste, unruly (9)
- 16 Woodland plants: names one wrongly (8)
- 18 Passage from start of *Rebecca* encased in bar (7)
- 19 Yet to be elected, vexed about ballot, ultimately (2,5)
- 20 Fibre shown by female in service on island close to Tampa (6)
- 23 Wet behind the ears, local taking time out (5)

JOTTER PAD