

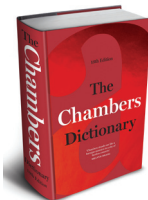
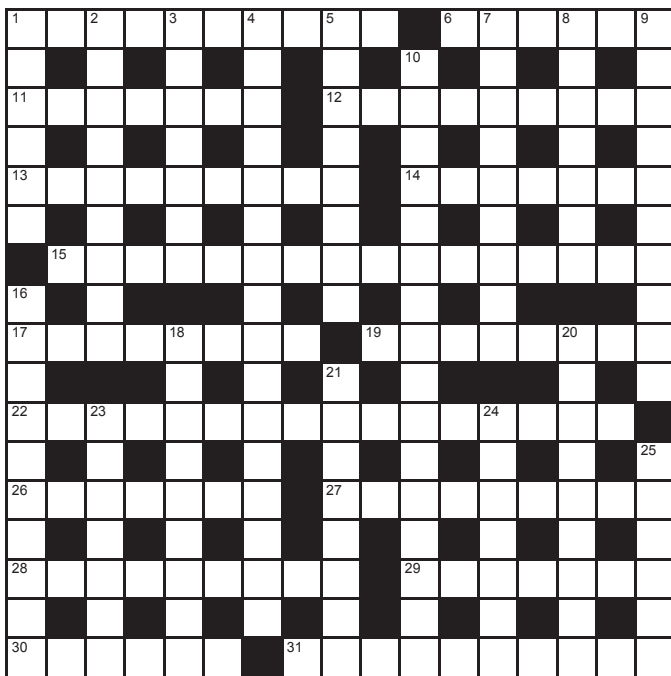
Polymath 970 Set by Falcon

ACROSS

- 1 Handheld digital toy, consisting of a digital pet that the owner looks after (10)
- 6 Ludwig, German romantic poet (1787-1862) (6)
- 11 White poisonous crystalline powder with a slight musty odour (7)
- 12 Character in Samuel Taylor Coleridge's poem *Christabel* (9)
- 13 System employed in chess as a method for assessing the skill levels of competitors (3,6)
- 14 In botany, a fleshy multiple fruit formed from the aggregated fruits of several flowers (7)
- 15 American a cappella group formed at Indiana University in 1996 (8,2,6)
- 17 Pietro, Italian painter known for his portraits of Queen Elizabeth II and President Kennedy (8)
- 19 Type of ashy soil (8)
- 22 2013 film starring Matthew McConaughey (6,6,4)
- 26 Scandinavian spirit made from potatoes or grain, flavoured with caraway seeds (7)
- 27 American actor, the TV animation voice of Batman (4,5)
- 28 Director of the 1949 film *The Third Man* (5,4)
- 29 Leonard, musical director of the St Louis Symphony Orchestra (1979-96) (7)
- 30 *The Talented Mr. -----*, a novel by Patricia Highsmith (6)
- 31 In mountaineering, a triple sliding hitch used to attach a loop of cord around a rope (6,4)

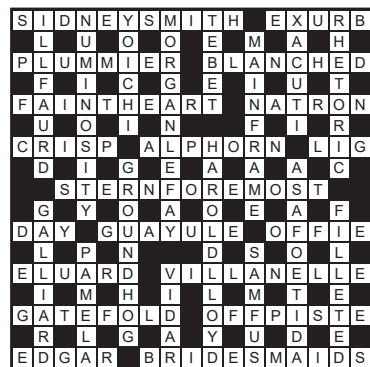
DOWN

- 1 Bill, American tennis player who won Wimbledon (singles) in 1920, 1921, and 1930 (6)
- 2 East Indian tree with thick leathery leaves and edible fruit (9)
- 3 Former kingdom of Spain, in Andalusia (7)
- 4 Painting by Jack Vettriano (3,7,6)
- 5 North London cemetery where Karl Marx is buried (8)
- 7 Raphael, historian who wrote *The Chronicles of England, Scotland, and Ireland* (1577) (9)
- 8 The -----, English band that had a transatlantic No. 1 single with "The House of the Rising Sun" (7)
- 9 English band considered to be among the pioneers of heavy metal (4,6)
- 10 White-flowered plant of wet moors (5,2,9)
- 16 The egg mass of certain sea snails (4,6)
- 18 Character, played by David Jason, in the sitcom *Open All Hours* (9)
- 20 Multicoloured goldfish with black spots and red patches (9)
- 21 American musician, songwriter, film score composer, and record producer (2,6)
- 23 Michael, former captain of the Danish national football team (7)
- 24 Formerly, any of the free warrior-peasants of Ukraine who served as cavalry under the tsars (7)
- 25 Family name in Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice* (6)



The first correct entry drawn on Wednesday May 30 wins a copy of *The Chambers Dictionary*. Entries should be addressed to Polymath No 970, Weekend FT, One Southwark Bridge, London SE1 9HL. The solution and winner's name will be published on June 2.

Solution Polymath 968



The 13th edition (2014) retains the much-loved features of The Chambers Dictionary, including the unique quirky definitions for certain words. There are more than 1,000 new words and meanings, and there is also a new Word Lover's Ramble, showing how English words and definitions have changed over the history of the dictionary.

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