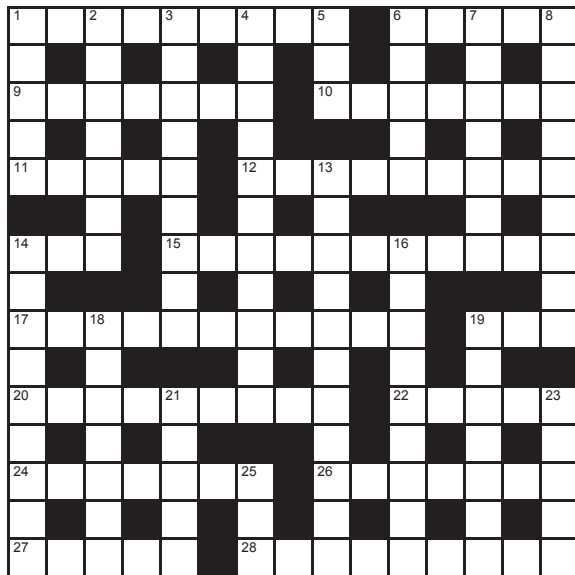


CROSSWORD

No. 16,159 Set by FALCON



JOTTER PAD

ACROSS

- 1 They're found in churches, intricate patterns close to altars (9)
- 6 Sound choice, it's said (5)
- 9 A male aboard pilot's vessel (7)
- 10 Squirm and shake crossing river (7)
- 11 Avid listener, for example, coming back inside (5)
- 12 Beginning to gossip about head teacher (9)
- 14 Restrain short aggressive dog (3)
- 15 Descriptive of political candidate's tour to Welsh pits in disarray (7-4)
- 17 Song from musical Aurelia, mostly, composed (5,6)
- 19 Ladder – step on it (3)
- 20 Once hurt badly by new club (9)
- 22 Long tale about ending of marriage (5)
- 24 Felled idol stupidly breaking law (4,3)
- 26 Comic hero also in comic read (3,4)
- 27 Coarse type in speakeasy, a hooker (5)
- 28 Term used by photographer, for example, at Caerphilly, perhaps (3,6)

DOWN

- 1 Try a test in translation (5)
- 2 One exacting retribution in area against English Queen (7)
- 3 Former PM wearing identical belt (3,6)
- 4 Flier scoffing at voyage (11)
- 5 Understood saying (3)
- 6 Earlier religious building, incomplete (5)
- 7 Ointment, fiery, not soft, applied round top of ulcer (7)
- 8 Brooch from Paris – bent, regrettably (9)
- 13 Vast year-end manoeuvres in a time for remembrance in America (8,3)
- 14 Worker in cold town famous for its lace (9)
- 16 Entirely European on jolly small island (5,4)
- 18 Indefinite number of us on island, hard to feed (7)
- 19 Are all silly importing eastern beer (4,3)
- 21 In small room, old stringed instrument (5)
- 23 Female relative, kind to conserve energy (5)
- 25 Foremost of weedkillers? Arsenic used to be (3)