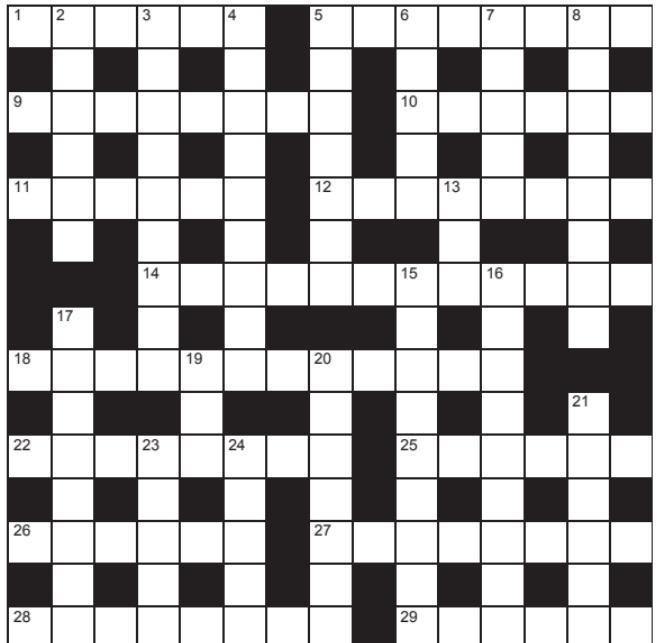


**CROSSWORD**  
No. 16,412 Set by ALBERICH



## ACROSS

1 Soprano with characteristic sound (6)

5 Muddle that is surrounding a new French composer (8)

9 Fat knight's first to swim in a couple of rivers (8)

10 Sent back section of glossy on nasty bugs (6)

11 British mountain provides disappointment (6)

12 Estimate too highly the frequency of deliveries? (8)

14 Hit out at sound that's repetitive (12)

18 Spam? Dodgy mail I deleted on cue then (8,4)

22 Clothes for trendy people (8)

25 Nowadays cobblers will keep one handy (6)

26 Mike needs one place setting (6)

27 Poet penning chapter on the end of George Smiley? (8)

28 Violent English border guards let out? On the contrary (8)

29 Repay one signing cheque on return (6)

**DOWN**

2 Emperor needs to beat overwhelming sovereignty (6)

3 Concerned with beauty, I cast thee out! (9)

4 Saying nothing after Stan drunkenly pockets right change (9)

**DOWN**

- 2 Emperor needs to beat overwhelming sovereignty (6)
- 3 Concerned with beauty, I cast thee out! (9)
- 4 Saying nothing after Stan drunkenly pockets right change (9)

- 5 So if American returns, ring mobster (7)
- 6 Tired of Street-Porter? (5)
- 7 Intimate meal with no starter (5)
- 8 Earl messed up, taping last bit of *Antony and Cleopatra*? (8)
- 13 Regularly arrange student charity event (3)
- 15 Met patron perhaps, since in Queens after work (4-5)
- 16 Soccer team compete with audience (9)
- 17 Ripped invite up – that's harsh (8)
- 19 Maybe Balmoral talks will be endless (3)
- 20 Note a bouquet is budding (7)
- 21 Austerity in dress runs for short time (6)
- 23 Tot is grabbed by wings of shore bird (5)
- 24 Avoid kid, missing first daughter (5)

### Solution 16,411

