

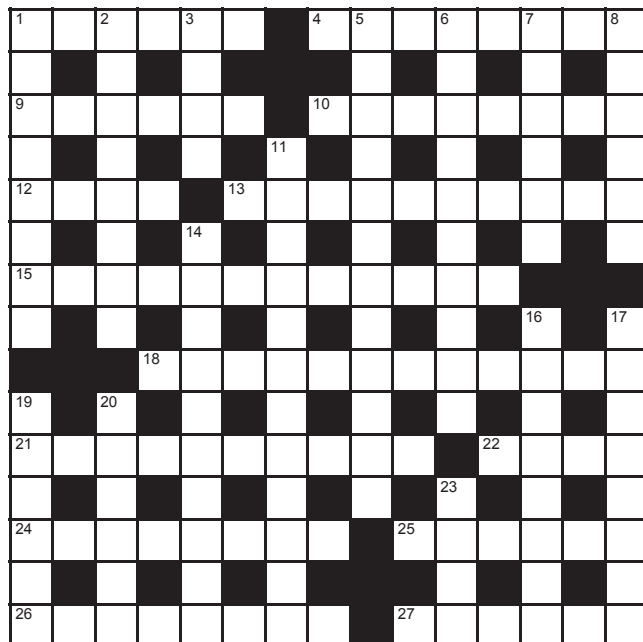
Crossword 15,988 Set by Alberich

ACROSS

- 1 The woman's carrying a member's basket (6)
- 4 Playing truant, about to perform opera (8)
- 9 Force husband to embrace faith? On the contrary (6)
- 10 Rope in somebody on Charlie's plane (8)
- 12 Fast pulse reduced by a third (4)
- 13 The clothes are drab, scruffy and worn (10)
- 15 Get in using jemmy? That's bold (12)
- 18 Minister to cut allowances initially pocketed by two politicians for greenhouse (12)
- 21 Male in charge meets old copper as usual (10)
- 22 Passage from Beethoven Eroica or Emperor (4)
- 24 Dined after I arrived, about to waste away (8)
- 25 Force second of nudists to wear clothes (6)
- 26 They're in and they're out (8)
- 27 Standing stone seen by Australian tours regularly (6)

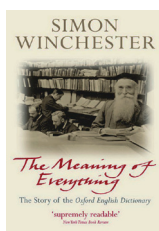
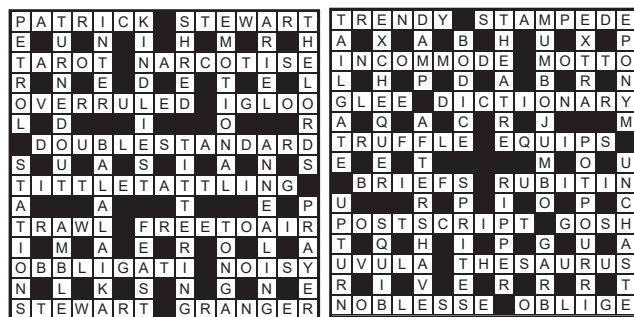
DOWN

- 1 One in the role cast as Basil Falwy? (8)
- 2 Steep price nursing home required to support old lady (8)
- 3 Effortless and simple? Yes, for starters (4)
- 5 Perfectly suitable Rolling Stones EP? True (2,4,6)
- 6 In a manner of speaking, I had a large flat? (10)
- 7 Last of rand belonging to city - this one? (6)
- 8 Bored with European intervening in rows (6)
- 11 Marksman's mum raps criminal on the nose (12)
- 14 Book suite on credit? One may be hag-ridden! (10)
- 16 Not one to express disappointment (3-5)
- 17 Run-down horse's rearing over relative (8)
- 19 Is worried about son having stroke (6)
- 20 Missing Britain, Alberich mostly ordered cake (6)
- 23 Speaker's avoided Tube (4)



Solution 15,987

Solution 15,976



Copies of *The Meaning of Everything: The Story of the Oxford English Dictionary* by Simon Winchester, published by Oxford University Press, will be awarded to the senders of the first three correct entries opened on Wednesday October 24. Entries marked Crossword 15,988 on the envelope, should be sent to Weekend FT, One Southwark Bridge, London SE1 9HL. Solution on October 27.

Jotter pad

Name.....

Address.....

.....

.....

.....