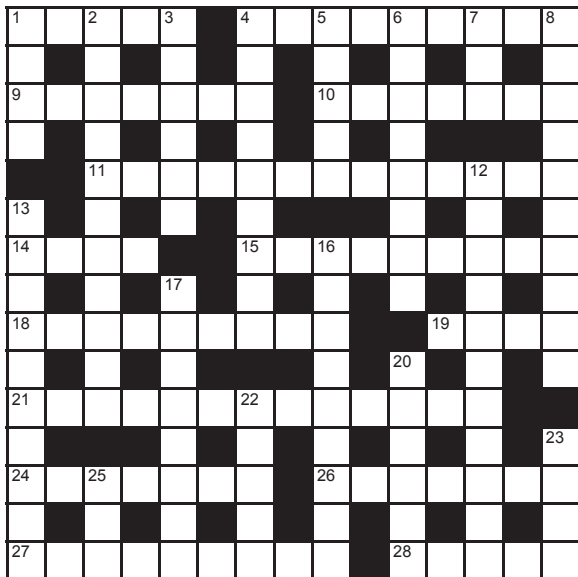


CROSSWORD

No. 15,877 Set by JULIUS



JOTTER PAD

ACROSS

- 1 Gather Julius confesses to being an idiot (5)
- 4 According to Spooner, Barcelona superstar "past it", reduced by 10% (9)
- 9 Sun, French wine – good for doing a crossword! (7)
- 10 Outstrip coach to London (7)
- 11 Beguiling women apply henna to locks of hair, introducing a hint of colour (13)
- 14 He saved animals without hesitation (4)
- 15 Bury the greatest American among the others (5,4)
- 18, 5 As van Helsing (as van Winkel)? (3,3,3,5)
- 19 Hook's bo'sun regularly simpered (4)
- 21 That's a perfunctory item; ITN doesn't hang about! (3-5,5)
- 24 This month's universal download (7)
- 26 Camera in Manchester loaded with film (4,3)
- 27, 28 Where Kane reportedly wandered, having been sent off? (2,3,4,2,3)

DOWN

- 1 Endless errors of judgment in Recess (4)
- 2, 3 Radical Caliphate? The West's not paying attention! (6,2,3,6)
- 4 Doctrinaire character to pursue Mike at first (9)
- 5 See 18

- 6 Guns shot tusker in the outskirts of Mandalay (8)
- 7 After extra time upset in the cup! (3)
- 8 Shift worker tailoring seams in darker environment getting afternoon off (10)
- 12 Female damns crude arriviste (4-4,3)
- 13 Herculean? No; do minimum accepted in our time (4,6)
- 16 Much-loved, Trump's leadership restored confidence having abandoned the centre (9)
- 17 Ponder a time in century-old French cottage (8)
- 20 Turning up on 1ac. round the back of Julius Caesar's Palace? (6)
- 22 For starters: hummus, artichoke, labneh, vinaigrette; afters: semolina carrot cake . . . (5)
- 23 . . . eat up, madam (4)
- 25 Tossplot tossing tossplot tossing away tops (3)

Solution 15,876

