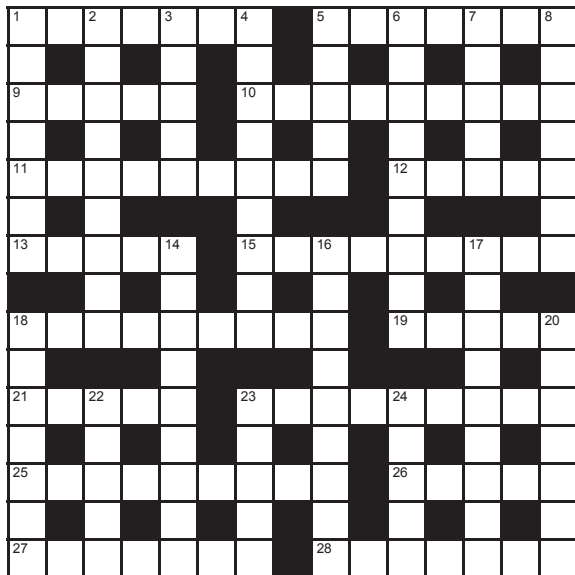


CROSSWORD

No. 15,726 Set by NEO



JOTTER PAD

ACROSS

- 1 Petitioner lets one go that's noisy (7)
- 5 European politician in tax storm (7)
- 9, 15 Disciple with virtue gives explanation for incompetence (5,9)
- 10 Pie cooked to fix a northern gourmet (9)
- 11 Unrealistic contract is sealed by Independent editor (9)
- 12 Little swimmer takes part in elite training (5)
- 13 Nurse gets husband out of danger (5)
- 15 See 9
- 18 Cat may be animal hard to catch indeed (9)
- 19 Classic film festival allows in 50 approximately (2,3)
- 21 Silver inscribed with second name between (5)
- 23 NY speed cops initially reported Bowery girl? (4,5)
- 25 Priest beats wickedly hot girl (9)
- 26 Make low noise devouring fine gammon (5)
- 27 Clear about health initially, one given too much wallop (7)
- 28 Rubbish PM keeping job (7)

DOWN

- 1 One imitating policeman lives in vacant yurt (7)
- 2 Leading in a race, three males going round lake (2,3,4)
- 3 Papa runs into trouble in cruellest month (5)

- 4 Mystical system Henry introduced to strange Soho type (9)
- 5 What sort of man was Kim Philby? (5)
- 6 Witty remark about compilers with long whiskers (9)
- 7 Sun god deserts Mycenaean princess awaiting power (5)
- 8 Tax on wine old news in Times (7)
- 14 Member given blame in the shoddy newspaper (9)
- 16 Obtain stewed meat – it's Beefy! (3,6)
- 17 It revitalises heart with due deference to God (9)
- 18 English getting aboard must stop vessel (5,2)
- 20 Old country house secured in 24 hours (7)
- 22 Have say in Co-op in Eltham (5)
- 23 Forcibly remove speaker's refreshment (5)
- 24 Elvish giant oddly dismissive over nothing (5)

Solution 15,725

