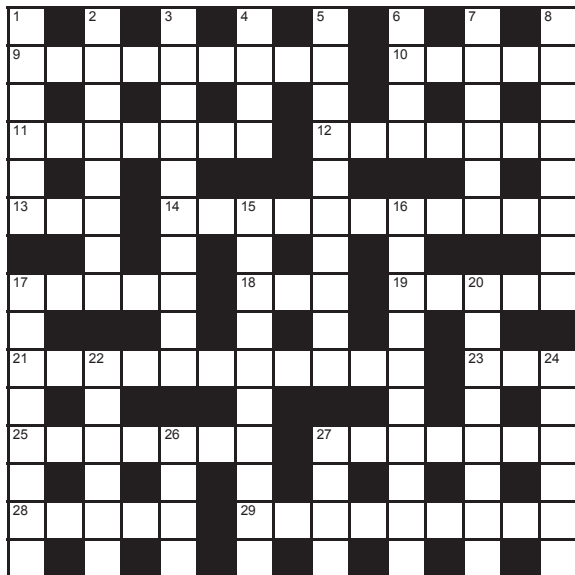


CROSSWORD

No. 16,257 Set by JULIUS



JOTTER PAD

ACROSS

- 9 It's exasperating getting hold of operator when flying (9)
- 10 Officer to harm little woman in custody (5)
- 11 Pacify ace German mathematician returning to base (7)
- 12 Bush to stop Arab travelling west (7)
- 13 Cat starts to torment old Macavity (3)
- 14 Body knight buried in old north-east French citadel (11)
- 17 Tobias returned, missing one shoe (5)
- 18 Blimey, hotel runs out of clarified butter (3)
- 19 Criticise Sunday lunch? (5)
- 21 Cue Aggers – I'm broadcasting score from the West Indies (6,5)
- 23 Mike left a fortune for another bloke (3)
- 25 Besiege Kray following rumour of jealousy (7)
- 27 Agent Gerald stripped of military rank (7)
- 28 Standard American opera (5)
- 29 Commercial vehicle time after time making a profit (9)

DOWN

- 1 Horrified – part of Reichstag has termites! (6)
- 2 Ad hoc social media group: "keep it quiet; Farah's putting on weight" (5,3)
- 3 Vacations at sea taking in Ontario's premier island (4,6)
- 4 Constant sport, to put the icing on the cake! (4)

- 5 Whisks off Best, 21, missing the second part (10)
- 6 Germany and Spain failing to respect Arab ruler (4)
- 7 Amateur Jack Rooney announced as a seed (6)
- 8 Mail intended reporting weapons (8)
- 15 Kray, with terrible ailment relating to military manoeuvres (10)
- 16 Featured in *Australian* commonly, Syd Cohen's regularly taken poison (10)
- 17 Copper despatched to seize criminal gear (8)
- 20 Aero Bar melted, left in sylvan setting (8)
- 22 Direct navy to support Tory minister (6)
- 24 Explosive device found in Kabul letterbomb (6)
- 26 Allegedly pulled a blade in the street (4)
- 27 Donated 26 grand upfront (4)

Solution 16,256

