

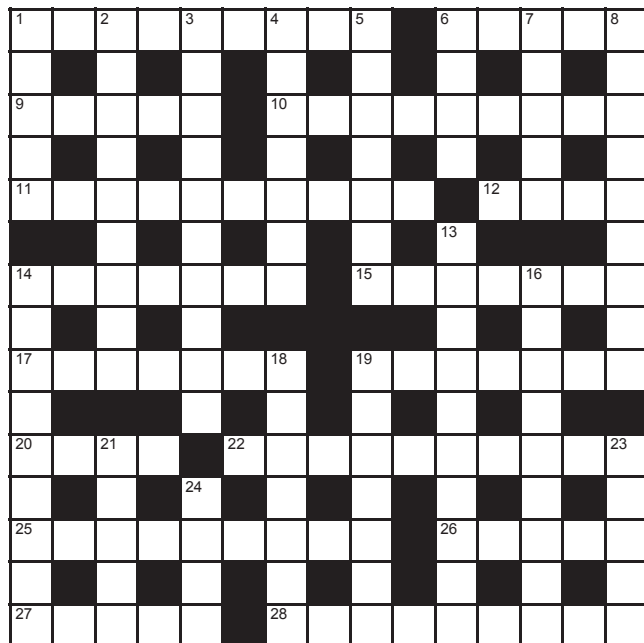
Crossword 15,744 Set by Mudd

ACROSS

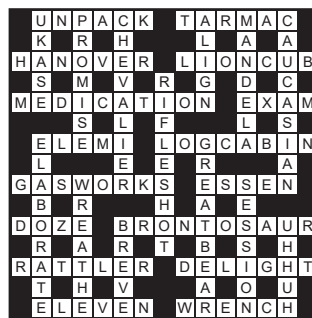
- 1 Prophetic fearful cry we hear is cosmetic (4,5)
- 6 Built to turn this way and that (3,2)
- 9 Row around black river (5)
- 10 Is team drunk? Then clear the bar (9)
- 11 Exciting and disgusting habit (4-6)
- 12 Card game very basic, did you say? (4)
- 14 Prison term starts alone, unfortunately – that's porridge! (7)
- 15 Award given to peer in a flap (7)
- 17 Some declare talent comes from the right side (7)
- 19 Establish the accuracy of indefinite figure invested in two companies? (7)
- 20 Tramp is bitter (4)
- 22 Is the purpose of an auction so grim? (10)
- 25 Singer, a hooper joining the party? (9)
- 26 First step of escalator behind lift (5)
- 27 Leader moving to the far right in centre ground (5)
- 28 As if drunk, thus lying back on the roof (2,2,5)

DOWN

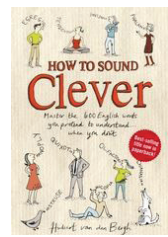
- 1 Much enjoyment getting around to bed (5)
- 2 Wreckage of boat, relic that's convertible (9)
- 3 Design of Arabic emperor in Spanish copper (10)
- 4 Star in waiting, the sun (7)
- 5 Show a prong piercing me (7)
- 6 Drain shoe (4)
- 7 Beat journey in Buenos Aires trip? (5)
- 8 Part of one's faithful dog? I'm not sure Rover needs it! (9)
- 13 Soldiers having nothing to lose, reorganised after mobilisation (10)
- 14 Savoury food after a lick, thrown up (9)
- 16 Odd characters in tour having departed, ignite with a fresh spark (9)
- 18 Plain female, one above punching subordinate (7)
- 19 Show prowler, assuming undisguised (7)
- 21 One never deviates as a sovereign (5)
- 23 Tongue licking other bottoms – yikes! (5)
- 24 Key drug (4)



Solution 15,743



Solution 15,734



Copies of *How to Sound Clever* by Hubert van den Bergh and *The Superior Person's Book of Words* by Peter Bowler, published by A&C Black and Bloomsbury, will be awarded to the senders of the first three correct entries opened on Wednesday January 10. Entries marked Crossword 15,744 on the envelope, should be sent to Weekend FT, One Southwark Bridge, London SE1 9HL. Solution on January 13.

Jotter pad

Name.....

Address.....

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