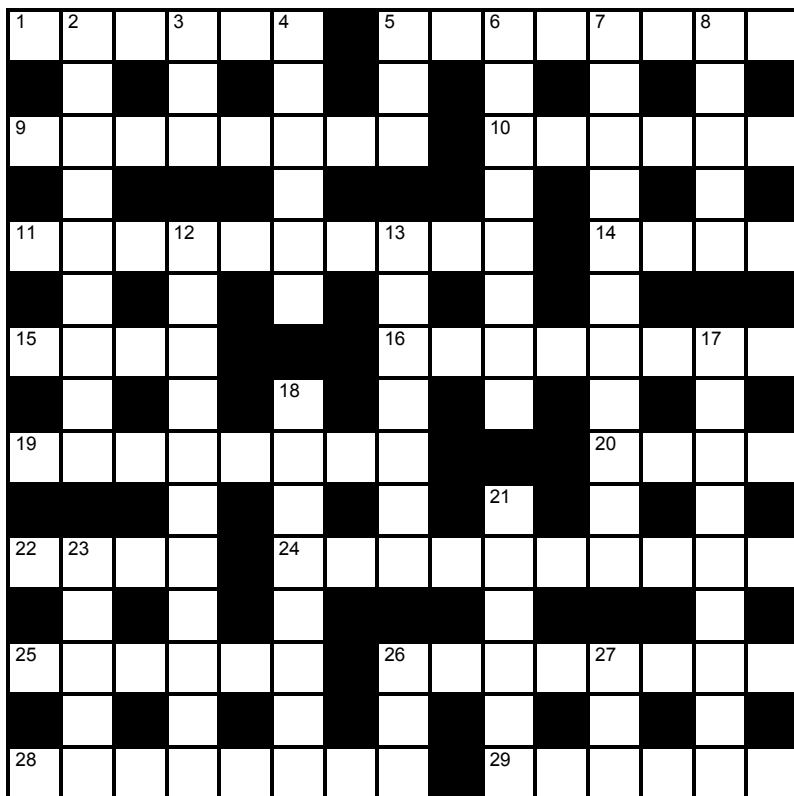


## MPP - 021 by Alchemi

*Three symmetrically-placed across lines pose a question. Your task is to answer it.  
[Before submitting your answer, remember that Alchemi is a sneaky devil so you need to examine the grid  
very carefully]*



### Across

- 1 Towers over policeman restraining conflict by force (6)
- 5 Muscle-bound Mark decides not to take part (8)
- 9 Domestic aid in appalling conditions cut off quietly (4,4)
- 10 Back four can be sufficient to get things done (6)
- 11 Solid month, 23 leaving Australia behind and not coming back (10)
- 14 Celebrated dynasty (4)
- 15 Sound broadcast one likely to succeed (4)
- 16 Anger follows lifeless tie (4,4)
- 19 Result of fight possibly sees devoted servant having to live outside (5,3)
- 20 Bugs fight back (4)

- 22 Malfunctioning computer left in lobby (4)
- 24 Disinclined to join in action as I break with Labour leader (10)
- 25 At Lourdes, this person possibly clubs religious devotee (6)
- 26 Old fight about dry dish (8)
- 28 Extra bit to gladden Dumas's heart (8)
- 29 Hit back at commercial enterprise closing in March (6)

### Down

- 2 What bread can be, but probably isn't (9)
- 3 Eggs right round Spain (3)
- 4 Country our people study after completing applications (6)
- 5 Makeover missing vicar's current measurement (3)

- 6 Somewhere in Georgia, leading group in hospital express surprise (8)
- 7 Teaches Latin badly, lacking lecturer's number (11)
- 8 Stocking some vinyl once (5)
- 12 Curtail urge to disrupt country pursuit (11)
- 13 Monkey coming in not long ago worth damn all in the US (3,4)
- 17 Stopped after snake covered the road (9)
- 18 Occupied before getting nurse around (8)
- 21 Probably in bed when former PM got up (6)
- 23 American chief getting up (5)
- 26 A measure of resistance to old queen (3)
- 27 Queen gets Republican to make a mistake (3)