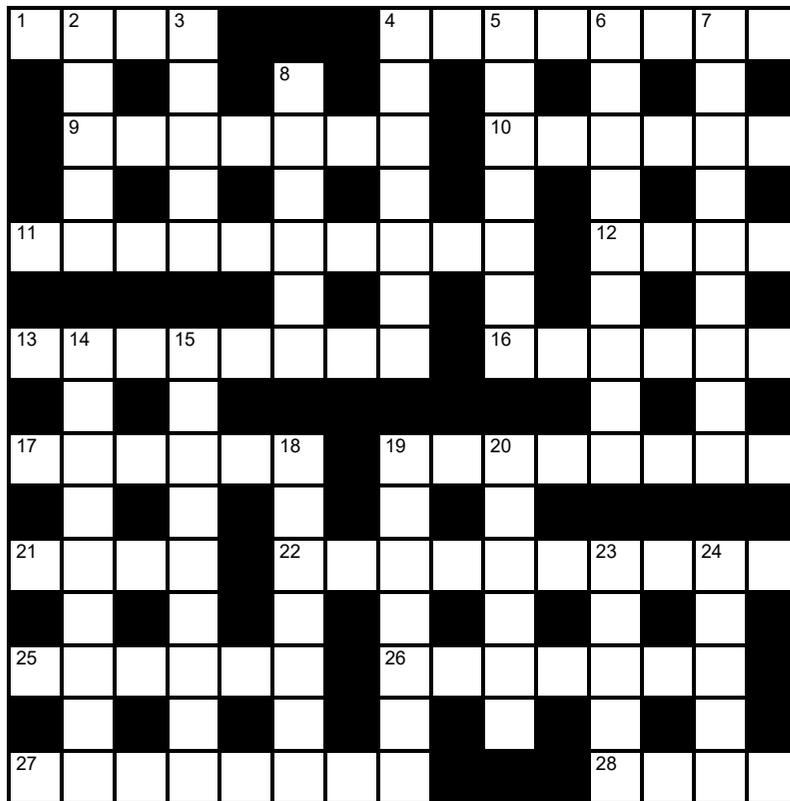


The Facts of Life

Which entry is the odd one out?

**Across**

- 1 Small company turned over a hundred thousand (4)
- 4 Mail carriers disposed to pass empty building (8)
- 9 Sent back note about performance-enhancing drug, not very good buy (7)
- 10 A half-hearted mob ripe for cultivation (6)
- 11 It involves dunking first of biscuits in lounge and others closer to hall (10)
- 12 Fishing expert has me working nets (4)
- 13 Carriage clock includes new key (8)
- 16 Craftsperson with energy, say (6)

Down

- 17 'Good value' sandwiches less than half roast beef (6)
- 19 Worried more after retiring, perhaps? (8)
- 21 Greenish-blue Sierra's pulled out of nick (4)
- 22 Fan added to Ritz suite? (10)
- 25 Consume contents of six-pack brother brought round (6)
- 26 Male is associated with skilful reversing, right? Cobblers! (7)
- 27 Debates misguided introduction of drying frame for kippers (8)
- 28 Left Indiana quarry to have a merry time (4)

Down

- 2 Region around Nile Delta shunning UN aid bemused to receive billions (5)
- 3 Tramp set about East Russian shore-dweller (5)
- 4 Diver unfortunate, line getting detached underneath Columbus's ship (7)
- 5 Consume pasty wife's filled (7)
- 6 Undergarments with lead to supplement weight constitute metallic items (9)
- 7 Bond with Boris in Cuba: admitting love, deny dancing with glee (9)
- 8 Sheen, perhaps, metal's shown following damage (6)
- 14 Pleasant time

involving lively dance around a barrel (9)

- 15 Suspect mostly trousers pieces of Spanish gold (9)
- 18 Glorify person of social distinction in the French guards (7)
- 19 Spotted sheds learner driver made a mess of (7)
- 20 US bomb Mediterranean country (three strikes, one after another) (6)
- 23 Those heading conspiracies are better alone, eschewing one? (5)
- 24 When driving off tee, dread inaccuracy (5)