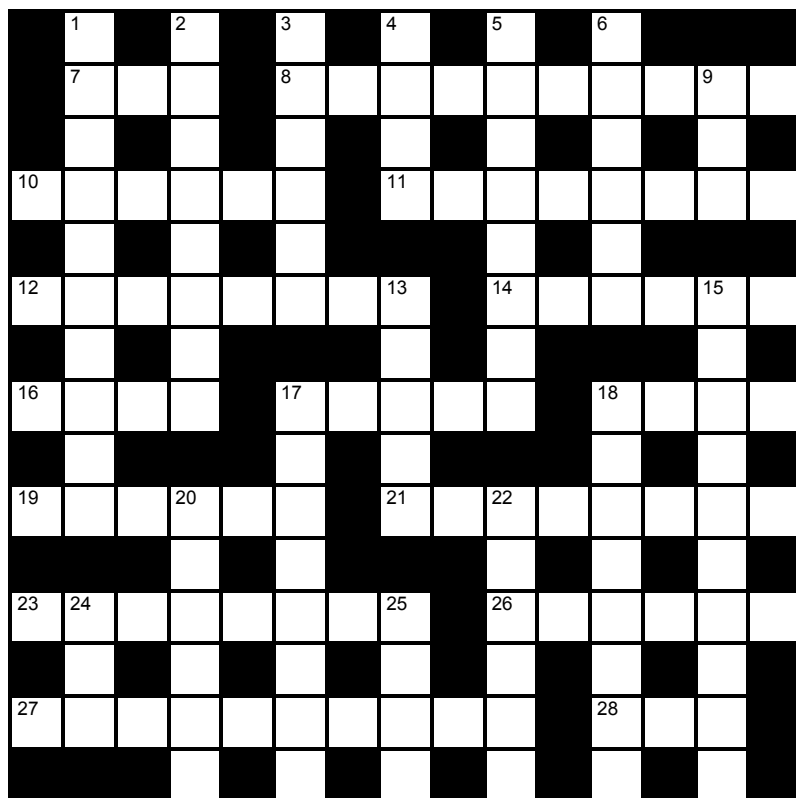


NTSPP - 150 by Radler

17 of the solutions (7 across and 10 down clues) could be preceded or (in one case) followed by the word "Christmas". The clues for those lack a definition, i.e. they comprise only the wordplay element. The remaining 12 clues are normal.



Across

- 7 Little jumper, not a pullover (3)
- 8 Roger ran tourism for Manila's walled city (10)
- 10 Form of rebellion taking place (6)
- 11 Barrel manufactured without additives? (4,4)
- 12 Bolt joining international players' team (3,5)
- 14 Lock Pole out (6)
- 16 Back issue (4)
- 17 F-flippant (5)
- 18 Fragment of shell in eggs (4)
- 19 Wild stags around. No worries (6)
- 21 One bringing out erotic film denied radio broadcast (8)

- 23 United at the outset then forcing to separate (8)

- 26 Ranking of trainee mathematician (6)
- 27 Respect promotion. Movement calls for grand exit (10)

- 28 Nearly always, (similarly true) (3)

Down

- 1 Pretence, except for last part (10)
- 2 Run away from the crowd, reportedly tired and sick? (3-5)
- 3 Dead on target, close to the centre (6)
- 4 Betrays trust when rejected (4)
- 5 Without concentrating, Virginia isn't able to play regularly (8)

- 6 & 9 Feeling less whole (6)

- 9 See 6 down (3)

- 13 Holy week heralds the start of Easter (5)

- 15 Apparently 'ughie 'as to, fed entirely fiction (4,2,4)

- 17 Last 5 rebels (8)

- 18 Do as father of Prince Charming said (8)

- 20 Model skirts, showing up cleavage (6)

- 22 Half of this deposit (6)

- 24 Characters transposed from Urdu perhaps (3)

- 25 Balls - squeeze together tightly! (4)