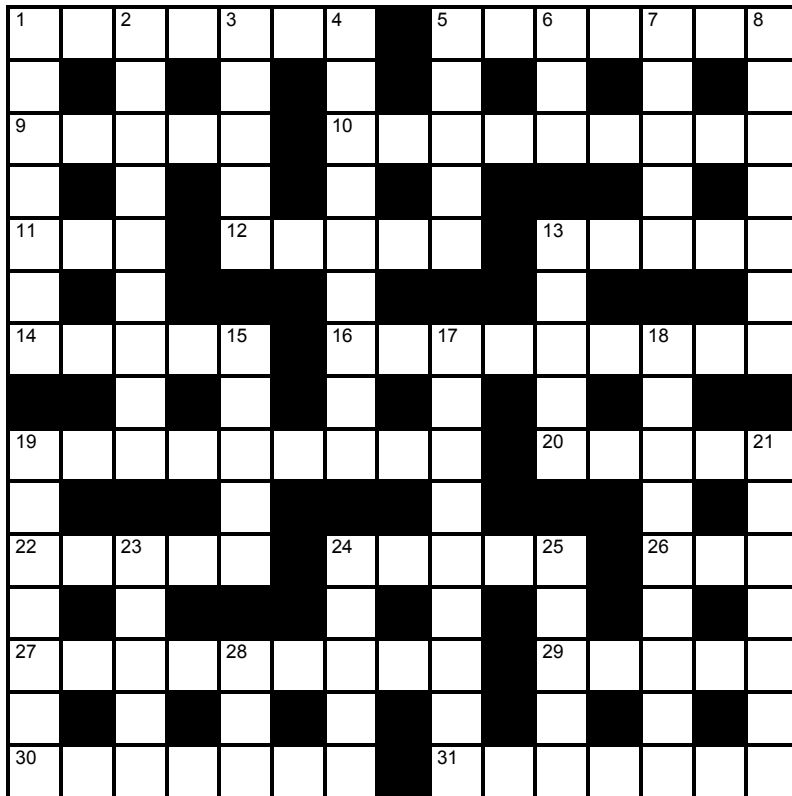


NTSPP - 173 by Prolixic



Across

- 1 French director's expression of contempt over "Metropolis" (7)
- 5 Sing about farewell charivari (3-1-3)
- 9 Flower seen in Anglo-Saxon territory (5)
- 10 Without a doubt carelessly loses troops (9)
- 11 Sleepy companion found in Manx harbour (3)
- 12 Gawp at unlimited bouncing breasts! (5)
- 13 Formerly restrained by nuclear strategy (5)
- 14 Rook and decapitated animal become rancid (5)
- 16 Our nephew is in trouble then (9)
- 19 German actuaries almost fool veteran (9)
- 20 Direct sister to swallow drink (5)

- 22 Three times a monstrosity (5)

- 24 Awards marks but not 100 (5)

- 26 Lady left Arab rulers to return for some sport (3)

- 27 Being unfulfilled, illegally rustled from dilapidated industrial estate (9)

- 29 Assesses taxes (5)

- 30 Hopeful message we will receive first (3,4)

- 31 Engineer altered a machine part (7)

Down

- 1 The German follows grey-haired collector (7)

- 2 Supporter's hit song about husband and companion (4,5)

- 3 Weeds regularly found in Stranraer square (5)

- 4 Result of Parisian lust? (6,3)

- 5 Show regret about first lady leaving Spain (5)

- 6 In Halifax anything written up is a couplet (3)

- 7 Stunner thanks the queen (5)

- 8 Behave badly in test? (3,2,2)

- 13 Quits game after opener's dismissal (5)

- 15 Runs and ladders (5)

- 17 Cement Rex mixed is crap! (9)

- 18 Fixer for boss and reporter - quite the reverse! (5,4)

- 19 Clothing divided amongst ringleaders (1-6)

- 21 Engineers debate second edition? (7)

- 23 One in recess took exams again (5)

- 24 Help yourself to what sister reportedly took (5)

- 25 Oriental craft has picked up Duncan's hay (5)

- 28 Match fixing (3)