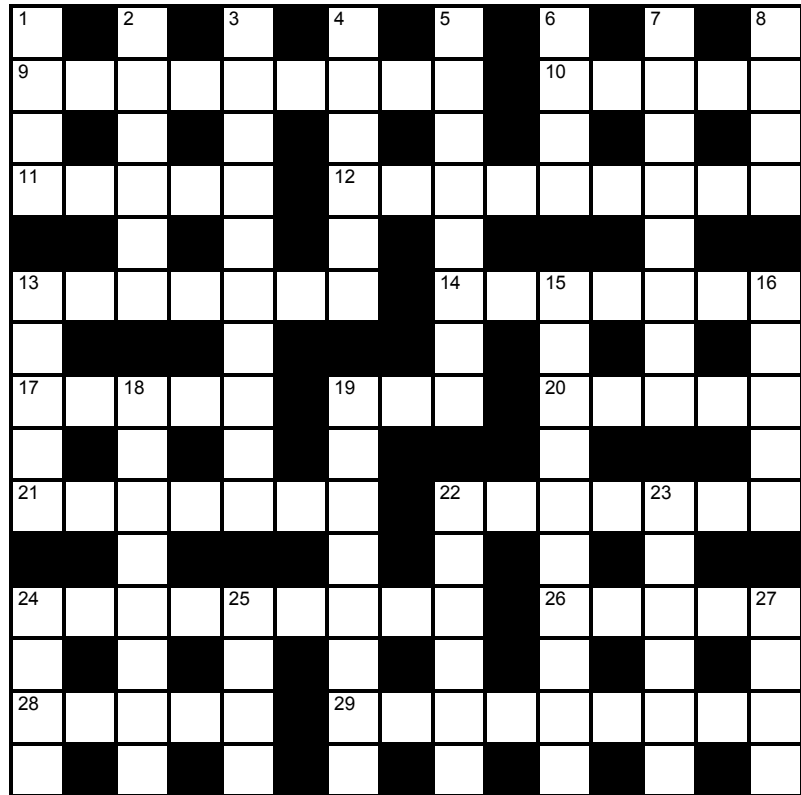


Last Rites of Spring

When you have solved the puzzle, see how many-thematically linked answers you can find.

Across

- 9 Christopher misses local production as singer (9)
- 10 Lance reviewed being "honest" (5)
- 11 It has many layers of workings I visit (5)
- 12 Push-ups in Spring from saucy beauties reportedly (9)
- 13 On this gives overall self-confidence (7)
- 14 Yellow one is not to be counted, so they say (7)
- 17 Swell sleep provided by this 19ac (5)



- 19 Posh lady retires for rest maybe (3)
- 20 They're sometimes forgotten when playing (5)
- 21 Short horsey animal seen at the start of Autumn (7)
- 22 Footwear accessory put together at last (7)
- 24 Medley etc for Len written by composer (5,4)
- 26 Mount exhausted by the sound of it (5)

- 28 Oscar blocks captain's return to dribble (5)
- 29 Repulsive rating given to ugly hornet, right? (9)

Down

- 1 Reply from score 0-2 initially? (4)
- 2 Cordial found in demijohn bottle (6)
- 3 End of the series? (7,3)
- 4 Most gifted, good man relocated to top firm (6)

- 5 Wiped the floor with tissue at first on crude treatment (8)
- 6 One doesn't strike leading scrum captain at breakdown! (4)
- 7 Ken sails in storm for cover (8)
- 8 This load might also undo actions (4)
- 13 Singer's knife (5)
- 15 Started out on Crete possibly (6-4)
- 16 Mean as Tyson appears? (5)

- 18 Part of war machine not run-in potentially (8)
- 19 Tuck into beef with buffalo top pizza filling (3,5)
- 22 Notes ambassadress's last position? (6)
- 23 State of gun that's worth a lot of money (6)
- 24 About to change course (4)
- 25 A bit funny Penny's missing toilet perhaps (4)
- 27 Make a comeback, get a deal, keeps partner! (4)