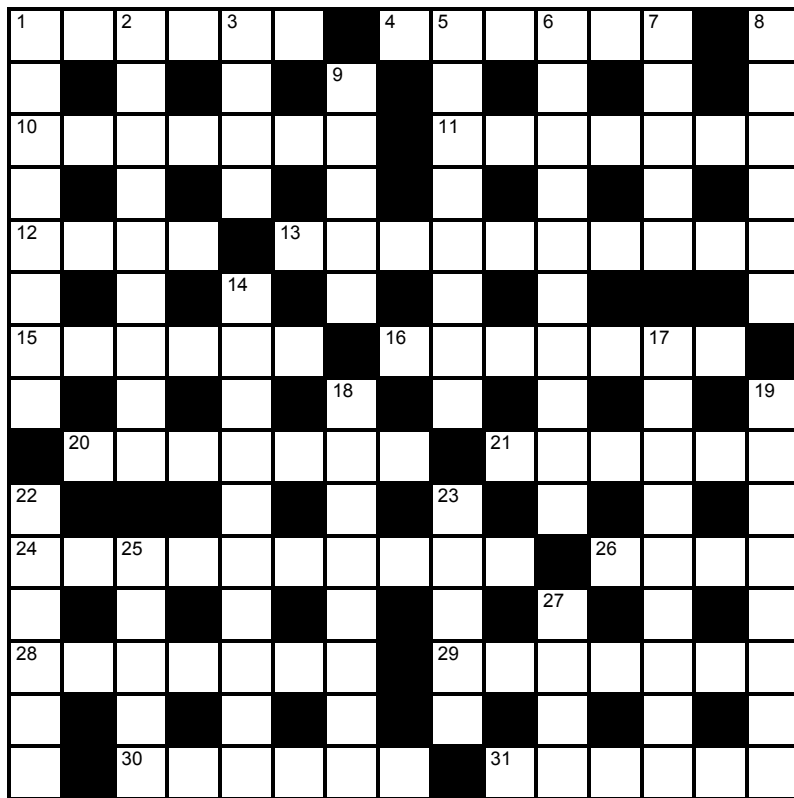


Two unusual words in the grid form part of a theme



Across

- 1 Thoroughly defeat party (6)
- 4 Agency finds chemical in unfinished cake (6)
- 10 Ancient vault - one found in a college (7)
- 11 Fruit is a necessity when travelling to the West (7)
- 12 Be miffed when Kay goes for posh sarong (4)
- 13 So we and our dog slaughtered a capercaillie (10)
- 15 Russian playwright gives up heroin for make of vodka (6)
- 16 Sweet talk former envoy to leave Italy with marshal (7)
- 20 Play back pleasing noises about sex for supporter (7)
- 21 Purser losing his head becomes more pale (6)
- 24 Prepare to clean up a melon (10)

- 26 Annoy 1000 before church (4)
- 28/9 Excitedly cycle to harem - that's kosher! (3,4,5)
- 29 Wine levy on port (mature) (7)
- 30 Case of fruit - four included (6)
- 31 High balls for sportswomen (6)

Down

- 1 Deal with paper omitted from transport bill (8)
- 2 Think about prayer (9)
- 3 Celebrity discovered in Costa Rica (4)
- 5 Relieve the burden on land used for ploughing (8)
- 6 Record award received for business (10)
- 7 Uniforms worn by charioteer getting freedom in Africa (5)

- 8 Man on railroad finds a small 26a (6)
- 9 See 28 Across
- 14 Turn on mate playing in competition (10)
- 17 Ice cream eaten by bird - quite the reverse (9)
- 18 Victor and Guy stand up for old countryman (8)
- 19 Kings and queen welcomed by very French fans (8)
- 22 Loner leaving society behind becomes vinegary (6)
- 23 Doctor Benjamin has small skin lesion (5)
- 25 Very much love as I may see it! (2,3)
- 27 Fairbank's regularly wanting a drink (4)