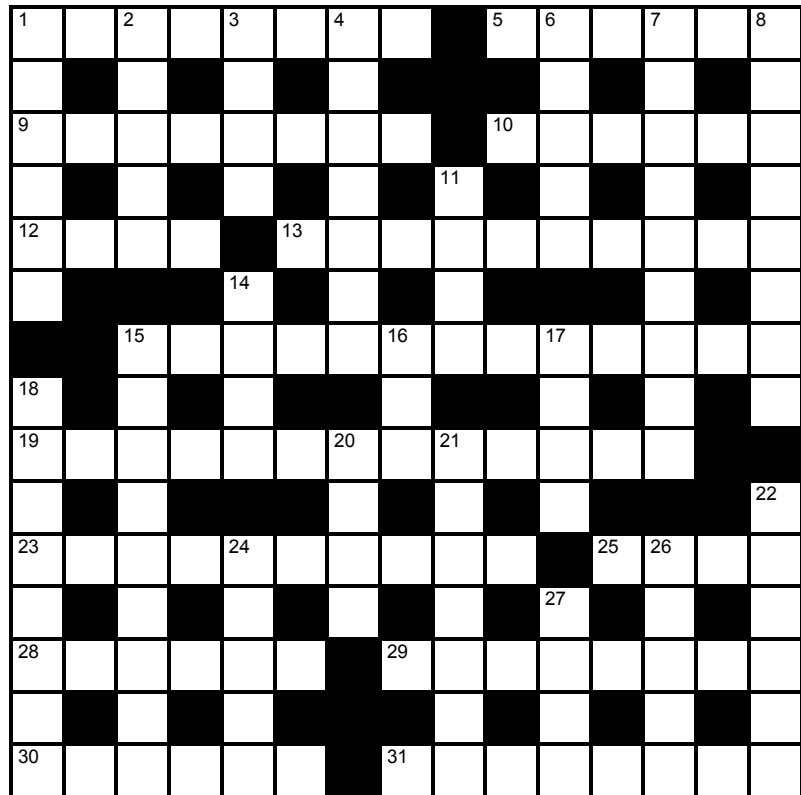


Across

- 1 To restrict the Fourth Estate's influence is sensible (8)
- 5 Knight scratches centre of Excalibur, borrowing something a bit smaller? (6)
- 9 Common for note conveyed by airmail to be (8)
- 10 Tool often found by anvil (6)
- 12 Front of instrument ruined; you can still play it (4)
- 13 Blame cheap cooks for dessert (5,5)
- 15 Disagreement when Tory party convention welcomes leader of coalition (13)
- 19 Crazy about a forgotten dance (5,3,5)
- 23 Rejecting original taxable earnings deal, energy firm is contemptible (10)
- 25 Soldier goes against weak officer, leaving the vanguard (4)
- 28 Not as many working in class (6)
- 29 Summary isn't representative (8)
- 30 Religious assemblies where secretary limits numbers - 500 admitted (6)
- 31 Steady player who's not lost their serve? (8)



Down

- 1 Draw gun without opening fire, impulsiveness replaced by ambivalence (6)
- 2 Persuade minister to break the odd treaty (5)
- 3 Gawp at defensive blunder by the French (4)
- 4 A friend playing rugby, though not at the highest level (7)
- 6 One large group of soldiers almost causes panic (5)
- 7 Commercial undermined by basic oversight ultimately draws criticism (9)
- 8 River and road cutting through bird's territories (8)
- 11 Missile heading slightly northwards - get down! 1000 died... (4)
- 14/22 Writer only in debt by accident (4,6)
- 15 Prostitute reportedly arrested with drugs - a case of addiction? (9)
- 16 Card is out of place (3)
- 17 Nick substitute for money (4)
- 18 Pans with remnants of revolting stews, laced with pepper (8)
- 20 Old article appearing in the body of *The Times* - what a joke! (4)
- 21 Tabloid regularly interjects: 'Time to outlaw fundamentalists!' (7)
- 22 See 14
- 24 Son gets unfriendly reprimand (5)
- 26 Extra journo providing clout (5)
- 27 Prison helps to make terrorist irrelevant (4)