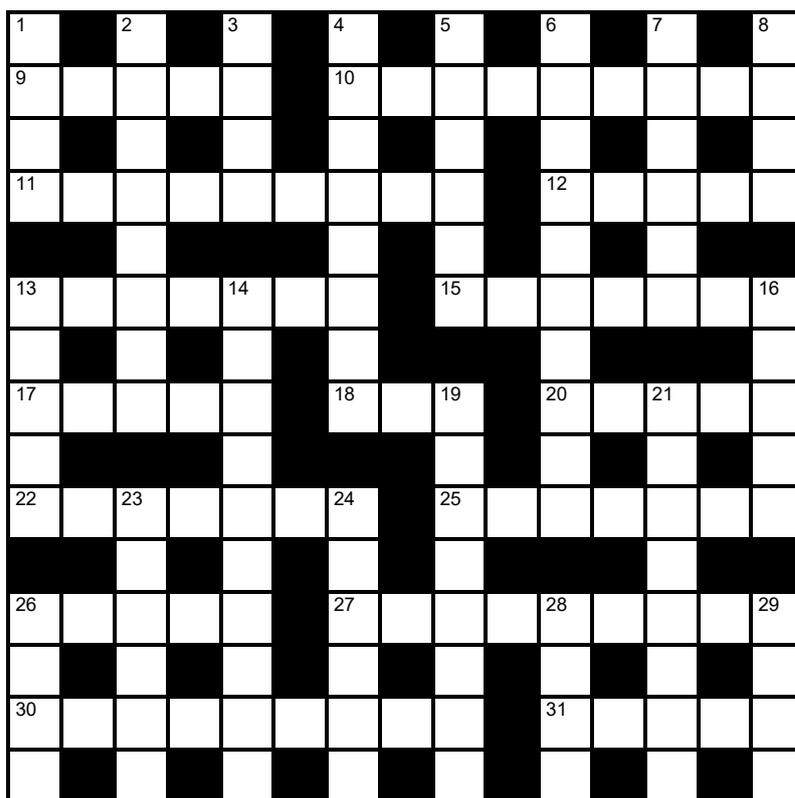


**Across**

- 9 Old German discussing Merkel endlessly (5)
- 10 Dracula, perhaps, to stop plane protocol before lift-off? (9)
- 11 Short-lived May's successor in "chaos" is overwhelmed by radical repeal (9)
- 12 Hazardous alcoholic spirit in Wossy's mouth (5)
- 13 Touchstone, say - Shakespeare put two at the very start of a certain comedy (7)
- 15 Join a couple of knights and Brussels government in bed (7)
- 17 Rice dish a chef may have a yen for? (5)



- 18 Typers' oddly overlooked response to 'is there a theme?' (3)
- 20 Thrifty person transferring capital to far east states (5)
- 22 Most long-faced horse's seat ditches learner by street (7)
- 25 Prize Chameleon loses tail following short spat... (7)
- 26 ...I spy it go snap and squash (5)
- 27 In music hall, Engelbert covered something difficult (9)
- 30 Meaningless and futile... a 29 like this not worth much (9)
- 31 Hunt exposed GCHQ bases (5)

**Down**

- 1 See 3
- 2 Brainboxes, for example, finding good leads (8)
- 3/1 Tame wild pair - they're on your side (4,4)
- 4 Vehicle enters small carbon city? Hardly! (8)
- 5/23 Property rights no longer apply here - vandalise a cold mini bar to start (6,6)
- 6 Experimental NT star is in film school (2,8)
- 7 14 27 initially announced - understand now? (3,3)

- 8 Nothing but love can heal humanity, ultimately (4)
- 13 After a short while, leaders in scientific enterprise suggest tablet dispenser (5)
- 14 Virtue and sin clash over unknown academic institution (10)
- 16 Roots of ancient Inca spices inject welcome flavour (5)
- 19 Weed in the sea (8)
- 21 European society taken over by Boris Johnson, for one (8)
- 23 See 5
- 24 Camera team's essentially hurtful tape machine upset us (2,4)

- 26 Breaks a little pasta up (4)
- 28 Fortune made by headless chicken's noise (4)
- 29 Life peer's smuggling something for a fence? (4)