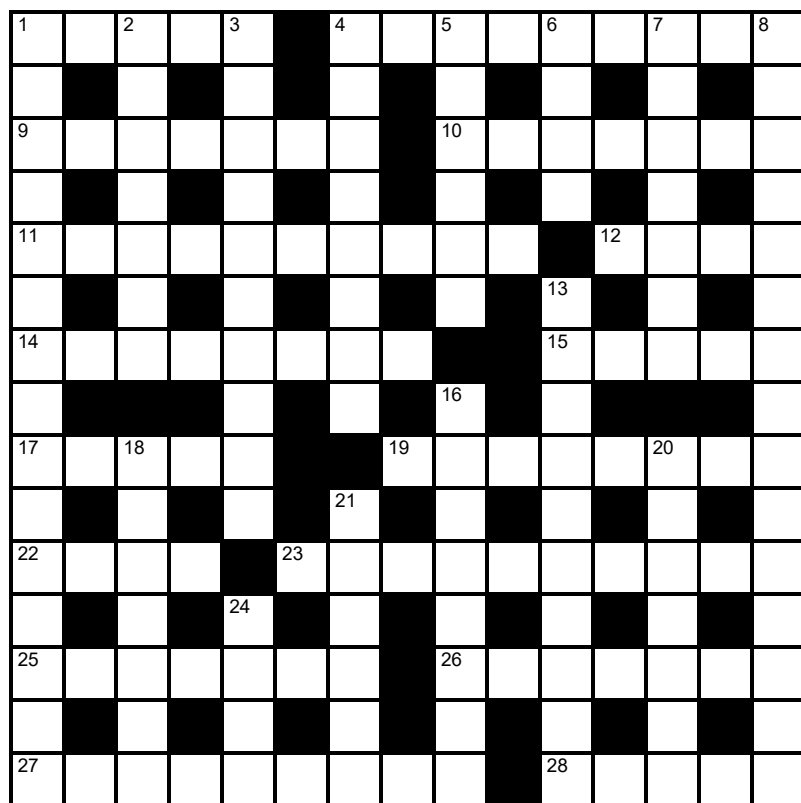


## A crossword by Coot



### Across

- 1 Find accommodation in small flat given prior notice (5)
- 4 Coot, ignored by colourful bird, about to move slightly (5,4)
- 9 Agree time to share ultimate in chocolate fancy (7)
- 10 Hopefully improving, rejects good painkiller (7)
- 11 Busy mum, a lutist, gets final offers (10)
- 12 Security organisation negative about cover for airport (4)
- 14 Having reduced hazards, skied freely on red run (2-6)
- 15 Some players regularly boycotted teammates' initiation (5)
- 17 Major's wife maybe not quite as we'd expect (5)
- 19 Leaves work very, very loudly following warning (5,3)
- 22 Leader of old English college (4)
- 23 Poorly constructed façade held for years (4-6)
- 25 Green movement preserving health standards, essentially (7)
- 26 Job's less demanding when one ousts unionist (7)
- 27 Note condition deleted in legal document (5,4)
- 28 Time to put one's letters in order? (5)

### Down

- 1 Result of investing in a vulgar pursuit, reportedly (7,8)
- 2 Boxer originally sought to emulate Queen for celebrity (1-6)
- 3 Temperature control matters to hot bats (10)
- 4 Scottish animals live like couples (8)
- 5 Gracious way to open letter addressed to oneself? (4,2)
- 6 Show series of sex positions (4)
- 7 Alternative song inspired by principal character in Verne's books (7)
- 8 Can't drive further, bursting - rueful stop or not? (4,3,2,6)
- 13 Noblewomen consider letters (10)
- 16 Coffee's up - drinking nine's dicey? (3-5)
- 18 Choose again to stagger current treatment (2-5)
- 20 Milky-white Alabama State houses (7)
- 21 Leaders of birds above lake pass Coot perhaps (6)
- 24 Come to trail (4)