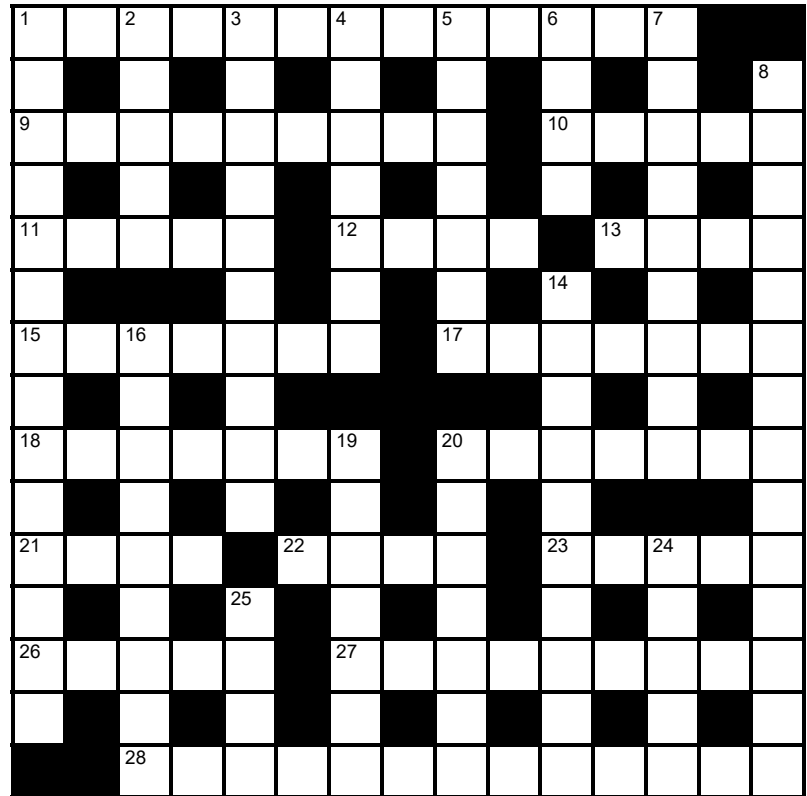


**Across**

- 1 Pinot crisis? (8,5)
- 9 Plays with chestnuts to release pressure (9)
- 10 Beginners in Class One must talk English but count in French (5)
- 11 Arab returning shortly (5)
- 12 Retreating police succeeded in making arrest (4)
- 13 German exposed backside (4)
- 15 Claims poison apple was cooked inside (7)
- 17 Spurs' turnaround without Kane finally showing endurance (7)
- 18 Prisoner thrilled to get go-ahead (7)
- 20 C-word used in story after tea (7)
- 21 Fantastic last season (4)
- 22 Fruit sounds spot-on (4)
- 23 Problem with thumb (5)
- 26 Prone to dishonesty (5)
- 27 Balkan bachelor becomes very unrefined person (9)
- 28 Youth served as cook for Mardi Gras (6,7)

**Down**

- 1 Play marbles at local Scottish retreat (8,6)
- 2 Walk-on bye? (5)
- 3 Pot reportedly stimulates flyers (10)
- 4 People discovered ordering non-British dustbins (7)



- 5 Publish former queen's proclamations (7)
- 6 Move slowly in church (4)
- 7 Beat pilot in race against the clock (4,5)
- 8 Article in French newspaper's covering useful low-alcohol drink (8,6)
- 14 Reword Geronimo? (10)
- 16 How to resolve harsh draws? (9)
- 19 Old car allowed up in city (3,4)
- 20 Brown books wedding at Arthur's Seat (7)
- 24 Attempted to be heard (5)
- 25 Acacia garden includes seaweed product (4)