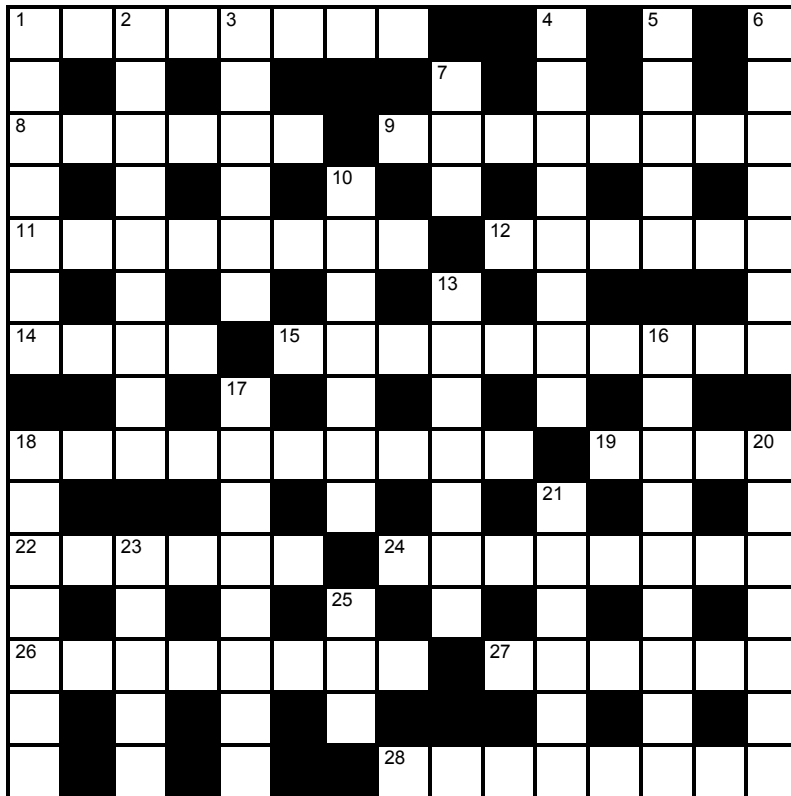


NTSPP - 048 by Qix



Across

- 1** Amidst curses, comeback for politician (8)
8 Supporter missing from French barrier (6)
9 Loyalists quiet in overcome capital (8)
11 Reinvest badly and get extremely uptight (8)
12 Wrongdoers first frame informant (6)
14 Some of them used large birds (4)
15 Romans inch out south-wester (10)
18 One not affected by country accent (10)

- 19** A container improperly shut (4)
22 Couple edited endlessly (6)
24 He asserts the German captured woman (8)
26 Indolence operating (8)
27 Rub the wrong way after bus returns to residential area (6)
28 Temporary farewell to de Gaulle as Benito casually breaks into a tango (1,7)

Down

- 1** Excuse submission without hesitation (7)
2 Child having uniform for clubs, maybe? (5,4)
3 Bishop, perhaps, is hot-headed, having no house (6)
4 Sort of sounds like purity (2,1,5)
5 Musical start to Christmas with Rudolf, perhaps? (5)
6 Family accepts a thank you from eastern Spain (7)
7 Reportedly avoids star pupil (3)
10 Companions undo corsets (7)

- 13** A Northern bird with castle in Hampshire (7)
16 Big outfit, like Hearts? (5,4)
17 Kirsty Young initially admits evening with student that's chivalrous (8)
18 Not going into details, I primarily needed fibre treatment (2,5)
20 Corrupt arbiter? Always Welsh! (7)
21 In church, praise Frenchman (6)
23 Awkward to sleep in it (5)
25 Cat that's central to pantomime (3)