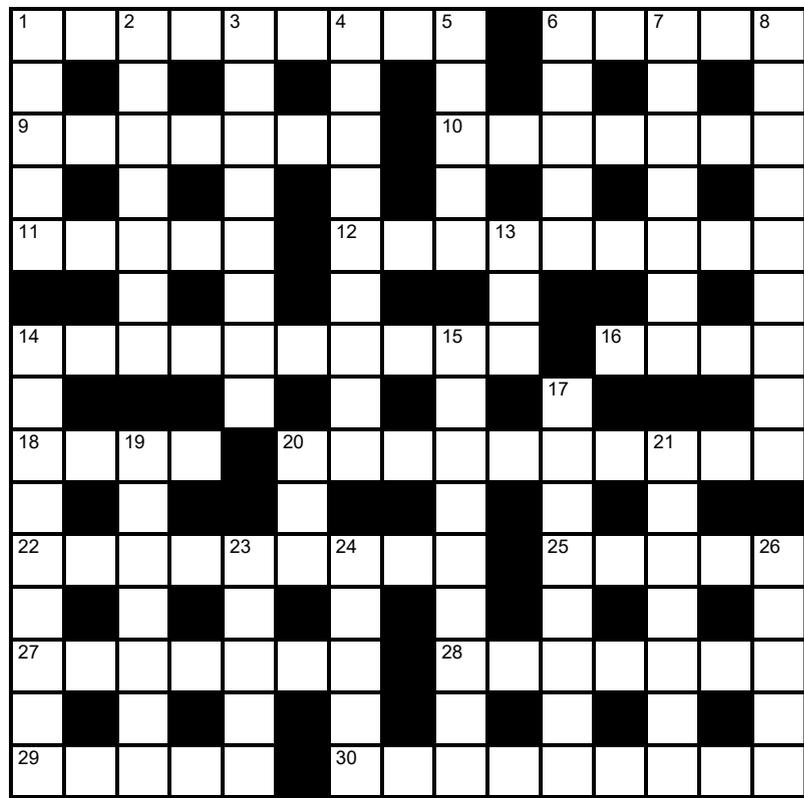


### Christmas Pudding

*There are a number of sixpences in the grid but, since they're supposed to be a surprise, the wordplay ignores them*

**Across**

- 1 Tony is sick with fever frequently (4,5)
- 6 Furious Luxembourg confronts Italy (5)
- 9 Cater for eccentricity (7)
- 10 Cut Belgium free in time (7)
- 11 Services entitlements over the phone (5)
- 12 Blade cutting away skin of mouse laying eggs (9)
- 14 University in Asian country - large one (10)



- 16 Study England's first prime minister (4)
- 18 See and kill deputy (4)
- 20 Craftsmen smoke a lot, right? Wrong! (10)
- 22 Detective finishes getting rewards (9)
- 25 Here in Abidjan, no good decoration (5)
- 27 I see old bananas as a useful plant (7)
- 28 Filthy graduate gets the last hole in one (7)
- 29 Quiet year with monarch being more retiring (5)

30 Stones are disrupting echoes (9)

**Down**

- 1 Queen snake (5)
- 2 Slept in tree - door set to explode (7)
- 3 Old letter about leaving things out (8)
- 4 Partners stopping god playing god at the start (3,4,2)
- 5 One supporter turns up outside a canteen (5)
- 6 Immature creature hides in cellar vault (5)
- 7 Shot before odd bits drop down (7)
- 8 Arrange hot

glasses (empty) for relishes (9)

13 Friend's tree lacking root (3)

14 Gratuitously discriminating between debt acknowledgements (9)

15 Hints the whole of America is keeping going (9)

17 American lawyers working for Scottish politician (8)

19 One hands in rodent to get horsemen (7)

20 Constrain match (3)

21 Obvious film about nurse (7)

23 Poetically boring otologist? (5)

24 Bottom drain is faulty (5)

26 Horses feed noisily (5)