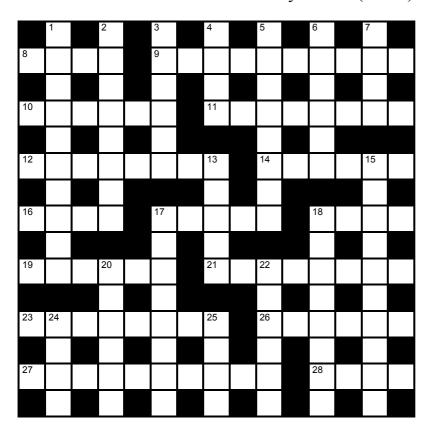
NTSPP - 210a by Prolixic

A Birthday Puzzle (1 of 2)



Across

- 8 Spar's informal home (4)
- 9 Folk he ties up people such as these? (3,5,2)
- 10 Overdrawn with debts that's offensive (6)
- 11 Police force arrests second hero returning with composer (8)
- 12 Complaint of peers touring old island (8)
- 14 Old Liverpool player's not about for pitch invasion? (6)
- 16 Exhausted when left sleeping! (4)
- 17 Copying a sound (5)

- 18 Live back to back with broadcaster (4)
- 19 Something amazing trendy councillor left that's safe to eat(6)
- 21 Criminal tags (8)
- 23 Strangely mishear about Bishop's Jewish custom (8)
- 26 Cut back with soldiers (6)
- 27 Send back impressive pips? (4,6)
- 28 N-number returned after tax? (4)

Down

1 Unsentimental broad I held goes to pieces (4-6)

- 2 Provided a fine old newsreader with education (8)
- 3 Secret Intelligence Service upholds instruction to reader with drooping eyelids (6)
- 4 A male hairdo (4)
- **5** Soft furnishing (8)
- 6 Guard in Slough before communist uprising (6)
- 7 Particles found in 40% of surgical procedures (4)
- 13 Policeman's undercover operation! (5)
- 15 Spooner's message warning of an addiction to cakes (5,5)

- 17 Marauding pirate provided drink (8)
- 18 Get to know teacher before Saturday morning!?(8)
- **20** Carried over large island (6)
- 22 Attorney and associate welcome the Italian king of the barbarians (6)
- 24 Leading lady keeps note for Arab chieftain (4)
- 25 Masses held by German youths (4)