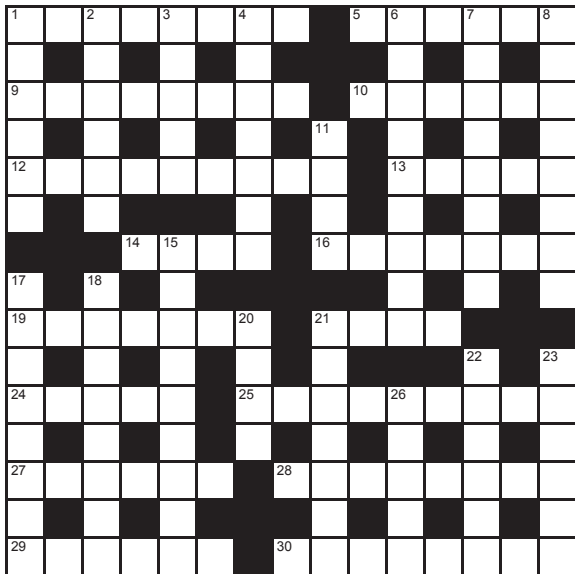


MONDAY PRIZE CROSSWORD

No. 13,973 Set by CRUX



A prize of The Good Word Guide by Martin Manser and How to Sound Clever by Hubert van den Bergh will be awarded for the first correct solution opened. Solutions by Wednesday April 18 marked Monday Prize Crossword 13,973 on the envelope, to the Financial Times, 1 Southwark Bridge, London SE1 9HL. Solution on Monday April 23.

NAME.....
 ADDRESS.....

ACROSS

- 1 Basic floor design requires a ruler (8)
- 5 Socialist author unhappy with Blair? (6)
- 9 Like Shakespeare's genius it rarely goes amiss (8)
- 10 One cell with a ring fixed in a beam, perhaps (6)
- 12 Valiant nil-nil replay is futile . . . (2,2,5)
- 13 . . . in return, City beat Brazilian port (5)
- 14 Sensible patients wouldn't be in it (4)
- 16 River in swollen condition – sound the alarm! (4,3)
- 19 Deleted word for "glove" in dictionary (7)
- 21 Airline's eastern centre of operations (4)
- 24 Set free of charges yet bound over (5)
- 25 Garden features using stones around lake (9)
- 27 One cold March back in the Antarctic eg (6)
- 28 Upholder of standards (8)
- 29 Tasteless ingredient of vinegar is harmful (6)
- 30 Wrongly diagnose, thus suffered a lot (8)

DOWN

- 1 Brigand swaps sides to be Roman governor (6)
- 2 A nurse takes time to be there (6)
- 3 A country's livelihood, you could say (5)
- 4 Frontline caught in seething rain – such bliss! (7)

- 6 Strange insects biting in cattle (9)
- 7 Start off being miserable and you'll get the sack (8)
- 8 Flyers from sale left scattered around (8)
- 11 Obscure leaders in battle located under ruins (4)
- 15 Tubs are OK to contain explosions (9)
- 17 Pathetic feeling (8)
- 18 Any issue he raised couldn't succeed (4,4)
- 20 Frank's caught out with ominous results (4)
- 21 Support needed on journal, work piling up (7)
- 22 Hard workers, we're told, who can't vote? (6)
- 23 Soar aloft, like Chelsea's first goal (6)
- 26 Prod to which toast's often attached (3,2)

SOLUTION 13,962



The winner's name will be published in Weekend FT on April 21