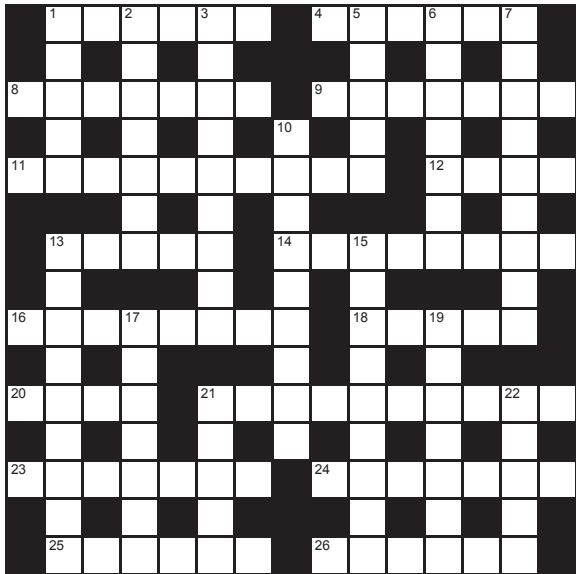


MONDAY PRIZE CROSSWORD

No. 14,281 Set by ARMONIE



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 17 marked Monday Prize Crossword 14,281 on the envelope, to the Financial Times, 1 Southwark Bridge, London SE1 9HL. Solution on Monday April 22.

ACROSS

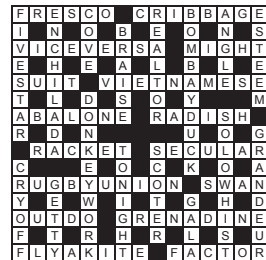
- 1 Earnings keeping staff? That's a travesty! (6)
- 4 Ascetic character's not cold (6)
- 8 Penny is in the Army & Navy getting surgical equipment (7)
- 9 Circle contains enclosure where birds are kept (3,4)
- 11 About to get fired? Away and ring the president! (3,3,4)
- 12 Be sure! Run and see (4)
- 13 Leggings for men (5)
- 14 Rattle on about award? That's insignificant! (2,6)
- 16 Dramatist sees woman free a nationalist (8)
- 18 Dutch break the bank (5)
- 20 Carriage in ambush (4)
- 21 Thief pilfers hot stew (10)
- 23 Ruin a French execution (7)
- 24 Turn crone into prattler (7)
- 25 Involve opponents with private eye (6)
- 26 Count wears spectacles in opera (6)

DOWN

- 1 Jerry hides stolen picture (5)
- 2 Abstainer in Cairo cooked cheese (7)
- 3 Poverty-stricken journalists going into action (9)

- 5 Keen to support Saturday lottery (5)
- 6 Passage leads right into bar (7)
- 7 Men let oil reform as a cream (9)
- 10 Slim and winning but losing one's hair (4,2,3)
- 13 One crèche managed consistency (9)
- 15 Prize-winner introduces director to food programme (9)
- 17 Blame drink for relationship (7)
- 19 Popular communist leader is heathen (7)
- 21 Go astray on main road in Egypt (5)
- 22 Patron of the arts in danger at Olympiad (5)

SOLUTION 14,270



The winner's name will be published in Weekend FT on April 20