

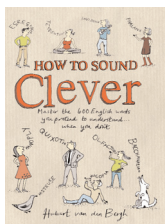
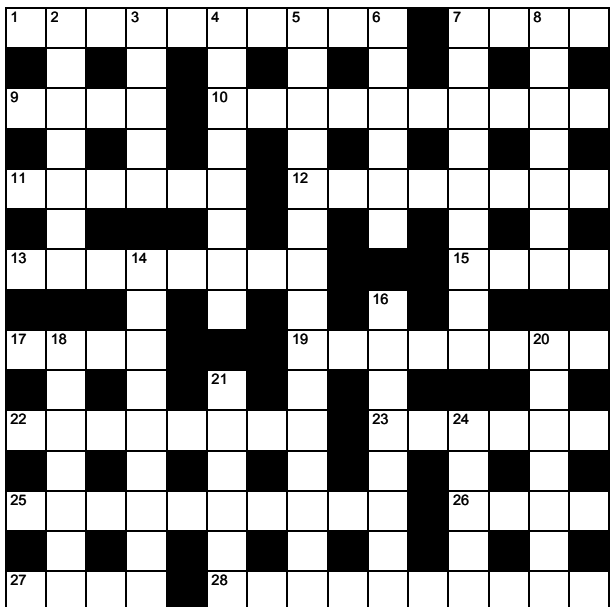
Crossword 13,604 Set by Mudd

ACROSS

- 1 A thousand isles harbouring witches, a Pacific group (10)
- 7 Side, as cheek (4)
- 9 Even so, they may be even! (4)
- 10 Oystercatcher finds fruit and meat stuffed with last of seaweed (5,5)
- 11 Animal with larger tail blocking passage (6)
- 12 Plant taking current unit into country (8)
- 13 Supporter's skill is found in God (8)
- 15 Bolt drawn back to reveal stream (4)
- 17 Single blue image (4)
- 19 Lacking a stalk, the hollow tree knocked over in three seconds (8)
- 22 Inscribed in wood, warning sign "Two Rings For Emergency Exit" (4,4)
- 23 Ending in compost, plant extract (6)
- 25 Scottish isle's housing dispute right – it's built for the city (10)
- 26 Sound white container (4)
- 27 Bandaged by physiologist, yet it's sore (4)
- 28 Doctor claims troubled waters beginning to destroy Devon community (8,2)

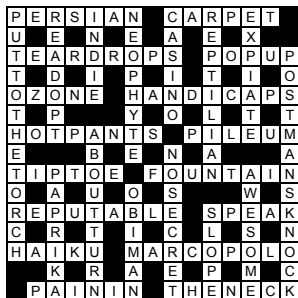
DOWN

- 2 State seen in goddess (7)
- 3 Polymer with sulphur kept in check (5)
- 4 Asian writer's taken up drinks and drugs (8)
- 5 Looks incorporating smooth shave as standard (5,3,7)
- 6 Confidence shown by an Englishman abroad, accepting liberal beliefs at first (6)
- 7 Mastiff's bottom, just ghastly (9)
- 8 Ten under red queen – that's me gone! (7)
- 14 State in which director Mack almost wound up clock (9)
- 16 Where there's passion over question about runways, for a start? (8)
- 18 Game little creature (7)
- 20 Paper boy into posh European (7)
- 21 Endlessly painful argument giving grief (6)
- 24 Wonderful meal, 1p off (5)

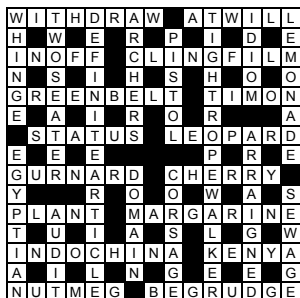


Copies of *How to Sound Clever* by Hubert van den Bergh and *Wobbly Bits and other Euphemisms* by John Ayto, published by A&C Black, will be awarded to the senders of the first three correct entries opened on Wednesday February 9. Entries, using the form below and marked Crossword 13,604 on the envelope, should be sent to Weekend FT, One Southwark Bridge, London SE1 9HL. Solution on Saturday February 12.

Solution 13,603



Solution 13,592



Name.....

Address.....

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