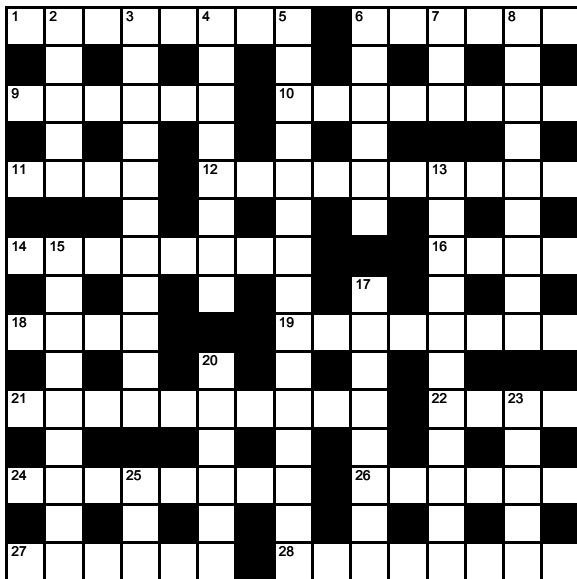


No. 13,605 Set by FALCON



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 February 9, marked Monday Prize Crossword 13,605 on the envelope, to the Financial Times, 1 Southwark Bridge, London SE1 9HL. Solution on Monday February 14.

NAME.....

ADDRESS.....

ACROSS

- 1** Tramp after accident must find a place to sleep (5,3)
- 6** Formality observed by celebrity going to church (6)
- 9** Senseless keeping piece of Spode that's cracked (6)
- 10** A great deal of water makes up Earth, son (5,3)
- 11** Ring mate about Ecstasy (4)
- 12** Obvious how defendant's statement may be used (2,8)
- 14** Womaniser reluctant to visit a Brazilian port (8)
- 16** Punch hooter (4)
- 18** Appellation belonging to Dallaglio, naturally? (4)
- 19** Arachnid in house, note (8)
- 21** Dancer, upper-class chap, swallowing one, shows how to deal with a hangover? (5,2,3)
- 22** Pressure in eliminating round (4)
- 24** English poet ringing about an email symbol? (8)
- 26** Improvement in winning act (6)
- 27** On the way back, some help me to a place of worship (6)
- 28** Bird making row outside dilapidated shed (8)

DOWN

- 2 Intense anger around northern area (5)
- 3 Coppers making little difference (5.6)

- 4 Leading lady, last in theatre to support PM (8)
- 5 Play hazardous hole (9,6)
- 6 Struggle in variety (6)
- 7 A special hard wood (3)
- 8 College censored crude climax (9)
- 13 Caught, surrounded by the Apaches, struggling to find a way out (6,5)
- 15 Banner, gold one, male put in fire (9)
- 17 Perplex leader of crew working with institute (8)
- 20 Ring cleric for a change (6)
- 23 Professional wearing article, protective garment (5)
- 25 Finest spinner? (3)

SOLUTION 13.593



The winner's name will be published in Weekend FT on February 12