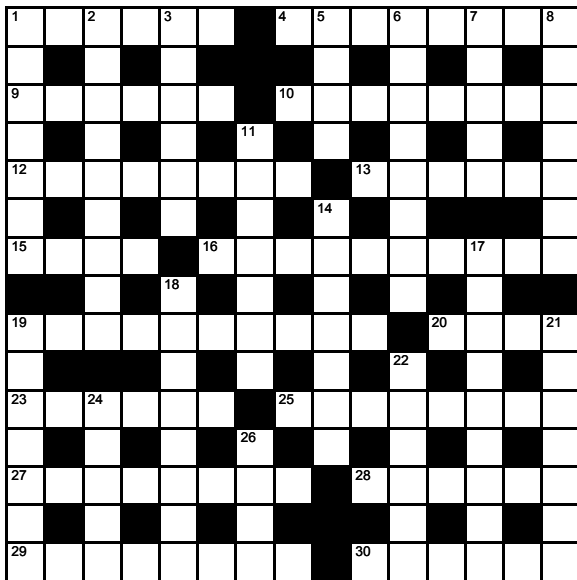


CROSSWORD

No. 13,574 Set by DANTE



JOTTER PAD

ACROSS

- 1 The raw components of an outdoor Christmas decoration (6)
- 4 Goes to pieces at the start of Christmas school holidays (6,2)
- 9 Start of an open-air party (6)
- 10 Reaction after too much party spirit? (8)
- 12 Revels in a Christmas song going round America (8)
- 13 Stroke a gander (6)
- 15 What about the end of a white Christmas? (4)
- 16 Stocking filler (5,5)
- 19 She may be recalled in pantomime (10)
- 20 Boisterous party in afternoon, or the other way round (4)
- 23 A wise man's transport given first aid (6)
- 25 Big copper's ex gets to kiss under the mistletoe (8)
- 27 Lively parties in joint with drinks (5-3)
- 28 A warning that a pool is unsafe for skaters (6)
- 29 Enjoys sauces with Christmas dinner? (8)
- 30 Decorative wood, likely to get cracked at Christmas (6)

DOWN

- 1 Engraving depicting the yule-log? (7)
- 2 Keep in mind what the party host will do (9)
- 3 Is busy, having finally wrapped a present (4,2)
- 5 Gather about a piano (4)
- 6 Very good article for cake decoration (8)
- 7 Evens out the number of swans a-swimming (5)
- 8 A number in strange capers around the tree? (7)
- 11 Tin with mushy peas provided for the party buffet (7)
- 14 Pen names for Christmas presents for a coiffeur (7)
- 17 Love helping after a party (9)
- 18 A priest's upset about the end of Christmas but carries on (8)
- 19 A stunning girl often pulled at parties (7)
- 21 Christmas gift offer (7)
- 22 Breaking up coal for the fireplace (6)
- 24 May be cold, with a flurry of sleet (5)
- 26 Curate's party held up in church (4)

Solution to Saturday's prize puzzle on Friday December 31

Solution to yesterday's prize puzzle on Tuesday January 4

Crossword winners' names will be published in Weekend FT.