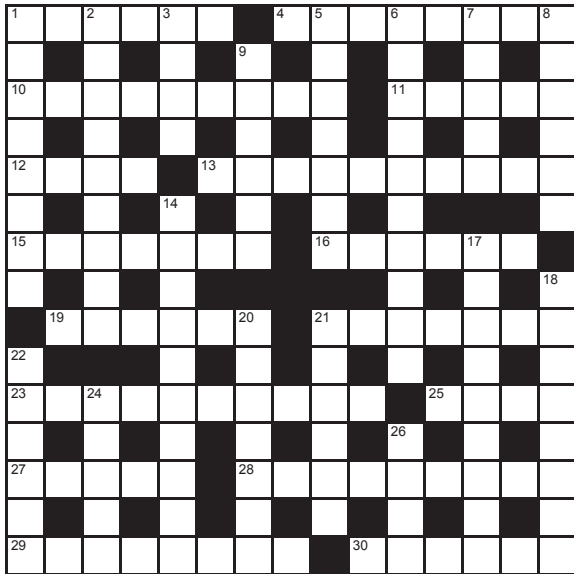


MONDAY PRIZE CROSSWORD

No. 14,548 Set by DANTE



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 26, marked Monday Prize Crossword 14,548 on the envelope, to the Financial Times, 1 Southwark Bridge, London SE1 9HL. Solution on Monday March 3.

ACROSS

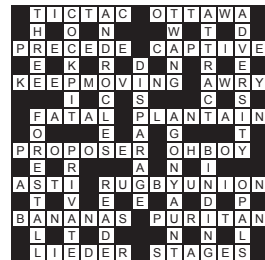
- 1 Left in Paris – could be awkward (6)
- 4 Before starting treatment mention new remedy (8)
- 10 Contract women tend to break (9)
- 11 A doctor required – about to turn yellow! (5)
- 12 Grass to irritate (4)
- 13 Shop Irishman is opening, with Republic's backing (10)
- 15 Smart enough to possess a chopper (7)
- 16 Excitement created by the coming down of an astronaut (6)
- 19 Where the Ark went fast (6)
- 21 Indisposed to be criticised? (3,4)
- 23 Bowl last ball in the dark (5-5)
- 25 Mock taken around start of summer recess (4)
- 27 Musical composition to catch on the heart (5)
- 28 I'm open about one for those who hate waiting (9)
- 29 Inserted plug in leak – a daring exploit (8)
- 30 Why is cocktail mixed together with spirit? (6)

DOWN

- 1 A nice rug spread out in Picasso painting (8)
- 2 Possibly slips beneath surface of river (9)
- 3 Try to sell a bird (4)
- 5 Formally dressed Italians lacking a change (2,5)
- 6 Organ movement (10)

- 7 What is left of a fire at the end of three months (5)
- 8 Revolutionary development in naval firepower (6)
- 9 Put right and couple up again (6)
- 14 Too far to charge from trenches in battle (4,3,3)
- 17 A good man to break the latest news (4,5)
- 18 Around noon, top fighter pilots attempt descent (8)
- 20 Agreed everything was bound to come out (7)
- 21 Crêpe I cooked, instructions provided (6)
- 22 Used for washing, put out on pegs (6)
- 24 Medicine that may be mixed with gin (5)
- 26 State university starts teaching ancient history (4)

SOLUTION 14,536



The winner's name will be published in Weekend FT on March 1