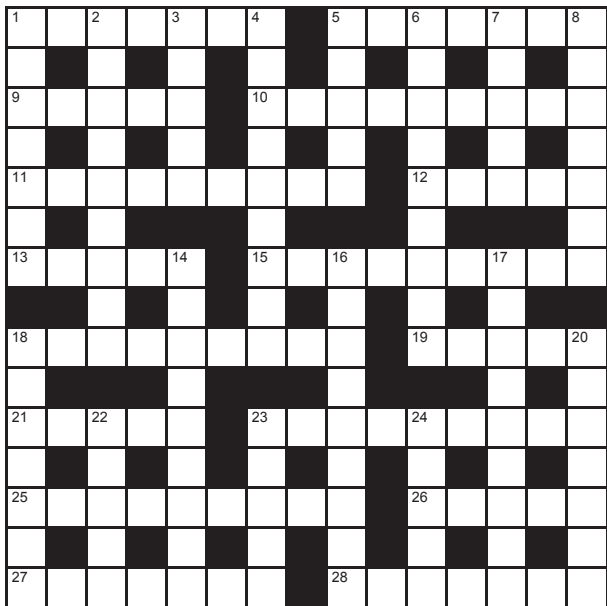


Crossword 14,506 Set by Mudd

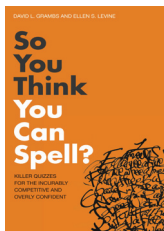
ACROSS

- 1 Some member has to like the party (7)
- 5 Leading corporation, lift prize (7)
- 9 Flower above ground among nothing that's been taken back (5)
- 10 Gripper breaking legs, pure ugly for a start (9)
- 11 A river preserved, might you say, for boat (9)
- 12 Bottom left point (5)
- 13 Numpty thumping head right into seat when leaning back (5)
- 15 Vatican saint touring cupola, one checking one's stride? (9)
- 18 Port mother put on compost heap, perhaps? (9)
- 19 A long time that keeps appearing hollow (5)
- 21 Lament rejection in leadership of engineering network (5)
- 23 Incomparable, unlike the arsonist? (9)
- 25 Pub accepts time to cut a deficit that's a burden (9)
- 26 Attack informer from behind tree, finally (5)
- 27 Turn in unemployment benefit, nothing to lose – then decline (7)
- 28 Sound manager's taken home – it's serious (7)



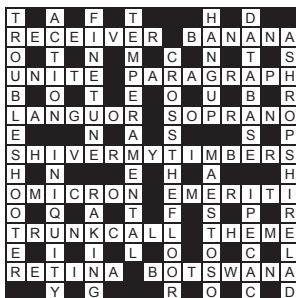
DOWN

- 1 Proposition so fine (7)
- 2 Restless time with paint all over the place (9)
- 3 Material showing energy in the brain raised (5)
- 4 Slimy type needing great power to contain a tantrum (9)
- 5 Nation certainly requiring translation over god (5)
- 6 Tree discovered in Northants town, well I'm blowed! (3,6)
- 7 A killer initially cut up in Bohemian movement (5)
- 8 Speaker, chirpy social networker? (7)
- 14 First in party hated to be introduced (9)
- 16 Cup is steamed for brewing (9)
- 17 Orange, brown, green and indigo initially mixed (9)
- 18 Embarrassed character at sign of dismissal (3,4)
- 20 Possible criminal caught in dodgy set-ups (7)
- 22 Teacher details fast multiplier (5)
- 23 Second source of metal for sculptor (5)
- 24 Backpacker greeting royal couple (5)



Copies of *How to Sound Clever* by Hubert van den Bergh and *So You Think You Can Spell* by David L. Grambs and Ellen S. Levine, published by A&C Black, will be awarded to the senders of the first three correct entries opened on Wednesday January 8. Entries marked Crossword 14,506 on the envelope, should be sent to Weekend FT, One Southwark Bridge, London SE1 9HL. Solution on January 11.

Solution 14,505



Solution 14,496



Name.....

Address.....

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