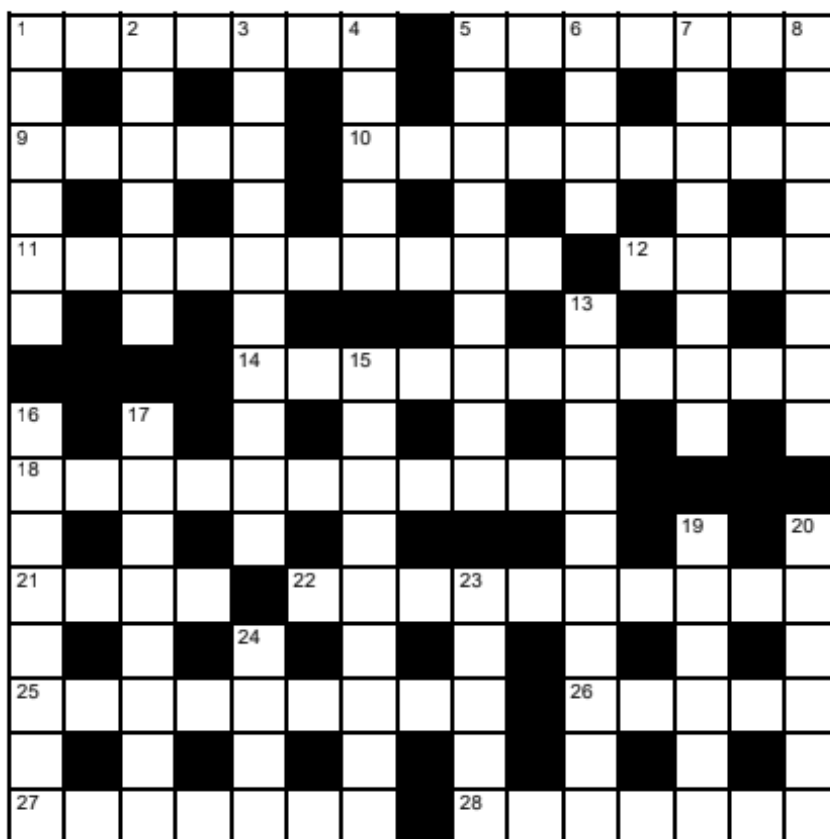


Cryptic crossword no. 25

By Mark Taylor



Across

- 1 I'm back into tortured prose, so only paid sometimes! (7)
- 5 In Dunedin, crisp found in epic 'hip' pie (7)
- 9 Admit it, in looking back, that pun won't do (3,2)
- 10 Sounds humorous? (5,4)
- 11 Hacked Algiers URL to find resistance fighters (10)
- 12 Nip, an old measure (4)
- 14 Arrested? No I broke out to find my purpose in life (6,5)
- 18 US flower is spelling bee favourite (11)
- 21 Right off beating (4)
- 22 Scrubs tear up before decisive victory (5,5)
- 25 No good bachelor in street gear - held in this (6-3)
- 26/2 Cheek rascal gives one suffering in wintry conditions (5,6)
- 27 Sailor's paling: losing head makes the heart grow fonder (7)
- 28 Sharp taunts? In short, unnecessary (7)

Down

- 1 Porous odour found within the limits of sensitivity (6)
- 2 See 26 Across
- 3 Each year, for each trace, find the sequence of evidence (5,5)
- 4 Giblets? Sounds dreadful! (5)
- 5 Melon ball Paul can't digest (9)
- 6 Idly stumble on rustic scene (4)
- 7 Characteristic for Marxist theft (8)
- 8 See 24
- 13 It's quite OK, these days, to have young woman tops in Brisbane local election (10)
- 15 Without seers, rebelliousness is confused and can't be explained (9)
- 16 Divine beverage Rob's drunk in the morning, one at first (8)
- 17 One Direction singers, we hear, are on board for old gents (8)
- 19 Lop end off an unimportant part (6)
- 20 Jerks found in health resort by text message (6)
- 23 Angoras boundless frolicking - it's in the air! (5)
- 24/8 Neve, one ankle twisted, but running smoothly (2,2,4,4)

Solutions

Across: 1. semipro 5. chippie 9. own up 10. funny bone 11. guerrillas 12. peck 14. raison d'etre 18. mississippi 21. rout 22. clean sweep 25. string-bag 26a/2d. brass monkey 27. absence 28. needles.

Down: 1. spongy 2. see 26a 3. paper trail 4. offal 5. cantaloup 6. idyl 7. property 8. see 24d 13. admissible 15. insoluble 16. ambrosia 17. esquires 19. detail 20. spasms 23. argon 24d/8d. on an even keel