

ACROSS

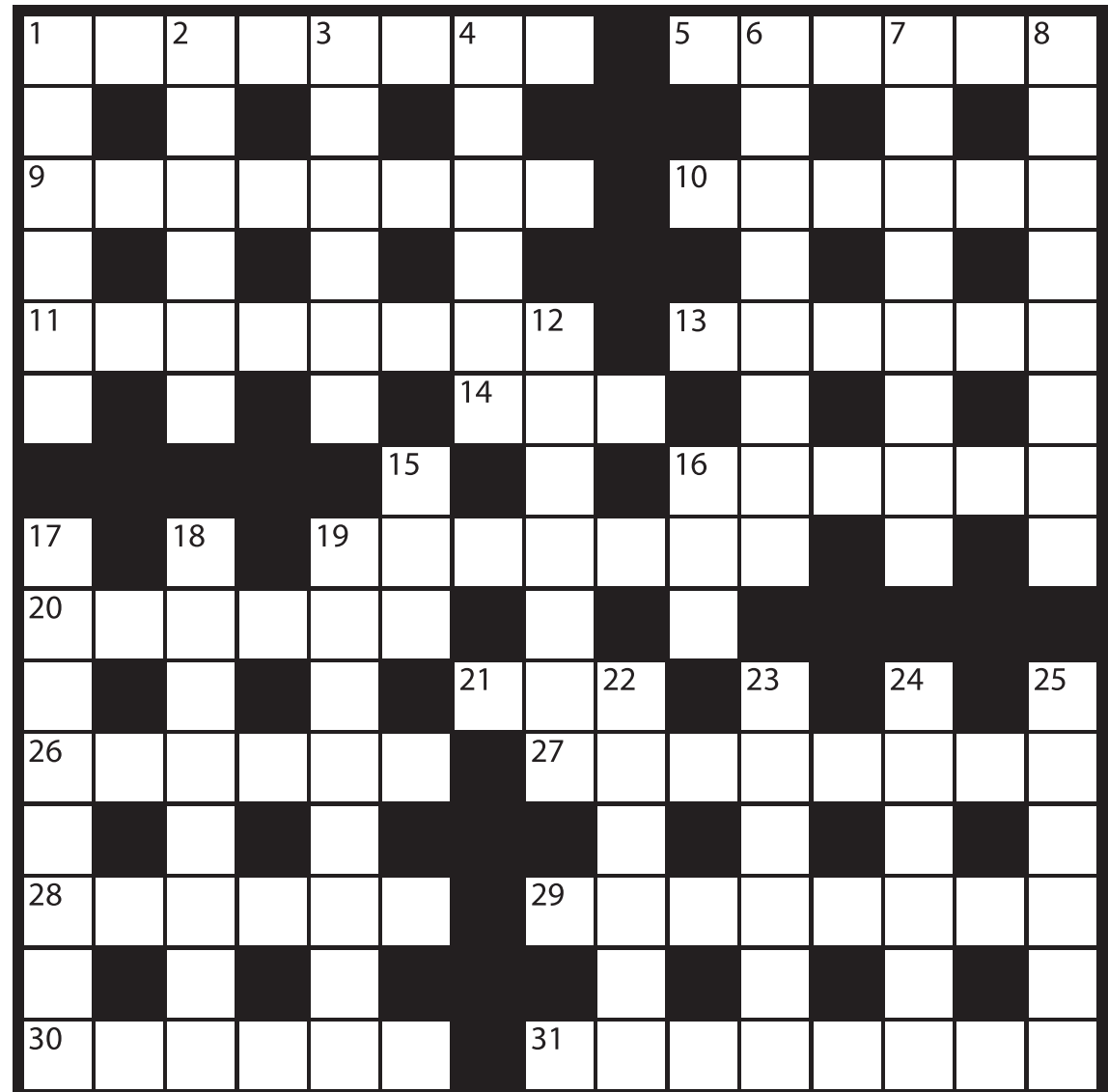
- 1 Start of Christmas working for police lacking writer - junction to hostilities (8)
- 5 Battle with proverb - capital (6)
- 9 Goodman's carpet almost elicits mirth in 1 (8)
- 10 Squirm over what might be served by ambassador (6)
- 11 Vote in the fellow, not finishing with a spark? (8)
- 13 Burning sailor can be slothful (6)
- 14 Long time in the onside (3)
- 16 Visit a motor race at the climax (6)
- 19 Are reds potted by those who peruse? (7)
- 20 Charm of a stubborn beast at third Nativity (6)
- 21 Deliver lines in a court (3)
- 26 Popular rock group as a whole (2,4)
- 27 He infiltrates right-wingers with high-flown ideas (8)
- 28 Mother, Frenchman and Scotsman are symbolic of greed (6)
- 29 Union paper! (8)
- 30 They tend towards old city in Rockness (6)
- 31 Listens again to point of practice (8)

DOWN

- 1 Type of monger confusing Scot with the Queen (6)
- 2 They could be strained amid Christmas dinner vessels (6)
- 3 Lands and illuminates (6)
- 4 Pass a falsehood to Barker (6)
- 6 Book holds wild boar for Christmas tumblers? (8)
- 7 Placed suit with date and fling (8)
- 8 They comprise 48 hours of feeble conclusions, we're told (8)
- 12 Behaviour of Rattle, with no alternative (7)
- 15 Ready for some tennis (3)
- 16 Tatum's skill (3)

Friday, 20th December, 2019

No. 15,046 by NKD



- 17 Last man I disturb for 20 (8)
- 18 Client of copper's more trouble, initially (8)
- 19 The others join old Premier in care facility (4,4)
- 22 Seat of power, then or new (6)
- 23 Drink with iron in church (6)
- 24 Playwright created some deep interpretations (6)
- 25 Have ambitions of gaining a church feature (6)