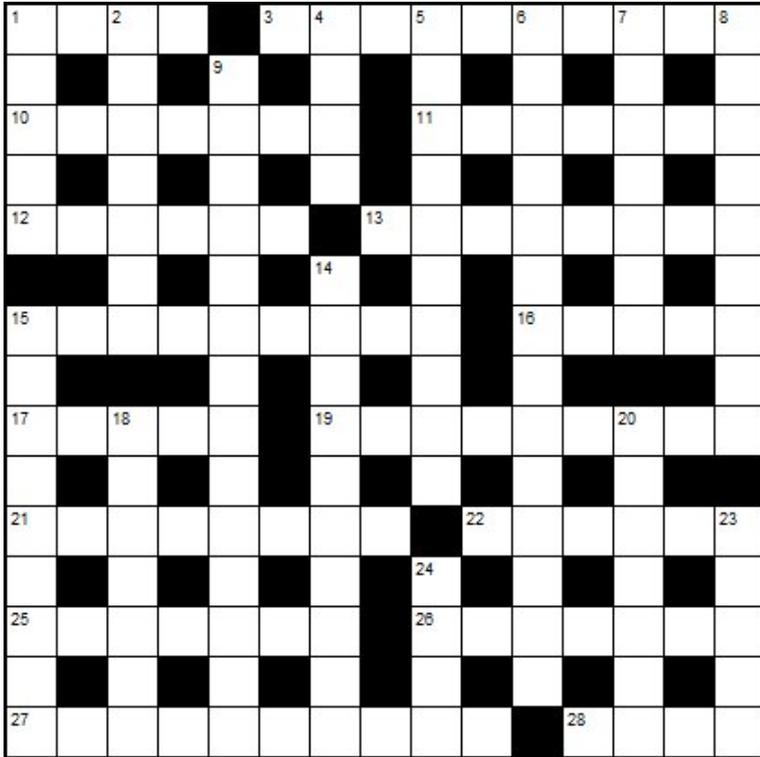


Puzzle by Wire

Wire employs a wide variety of interesting tricks in the clues for his first puzzle, and there are some very well hidden definitions. My favourite is 11 across.



ACROSS

- 1,16 Hairdo that's more risqué in the Home Counties (4,5)
- 3 Twenty tennis games entered by chap could be match record (10)
- 10 Court activity of bent criminal everyone follows (7)
- 11 Drift from main street to grab a free comic (3,4)
- 12 Outburst from ruptured pipe contained within Yorkshire boundaries (6)
- 13 Daredevil characters that stand out? (4,4)
- 15 Mutton, perhaps, back at home scoffed down initially, soaked in sauce (9)
- 16 See 1 across
- 17 Island event hosts the return of band available for hire (2,3)
- 19 Glam rocker nearly recruited into military lines (9)
- 21 Fail to keep game and salted pork, having eaten last of stock (2,4,2)
- 22 Frank performed half of French dance beforehand (6)
- 25 9-5 ethos heralds the beginnings of a great city (7)
- 26 Tendency not to move popular royal (one in the army) (7)
- 27 Attempt to catch devious liar stalking Tory in a perverse way (10)
- 28 Paper seems scant after, essentially, it's lifted from bogs (4)

DOWN

- 1,24 TV comedy star putting New York amongst high points (5,4)
- 2 The responsibility of sixth Tudor wife, reportedly of good standard (2,2,3)
- 4 Competent locum nurses twisted arm (4)
- 5 Greeks regularly will approach Muses, providing they answer (10)
- 6 Flag-waver and typical exhibitionist, some might say (8-6)
- 7 Soon after starting, almost decapitated working below (5,2)
- 8 Summer wine for ladies ends and they struggle in their heels? (9)
- 9 Navy technology established in friendly bay, run to give temporary assistance (9,5)
- 14 Family member upset house cat perhaps, ensconced in cradle tightly (10)
- 15 Able to cause chromosomal damage in mice (gaunt after experimentation?) (9)
- 18 Proscribe the name of "Trotsky" across this country (7)
- 20 Lively young woman from Parisian coffee houses (7)
- 23 Consultant for one stern recruitment process (5)

