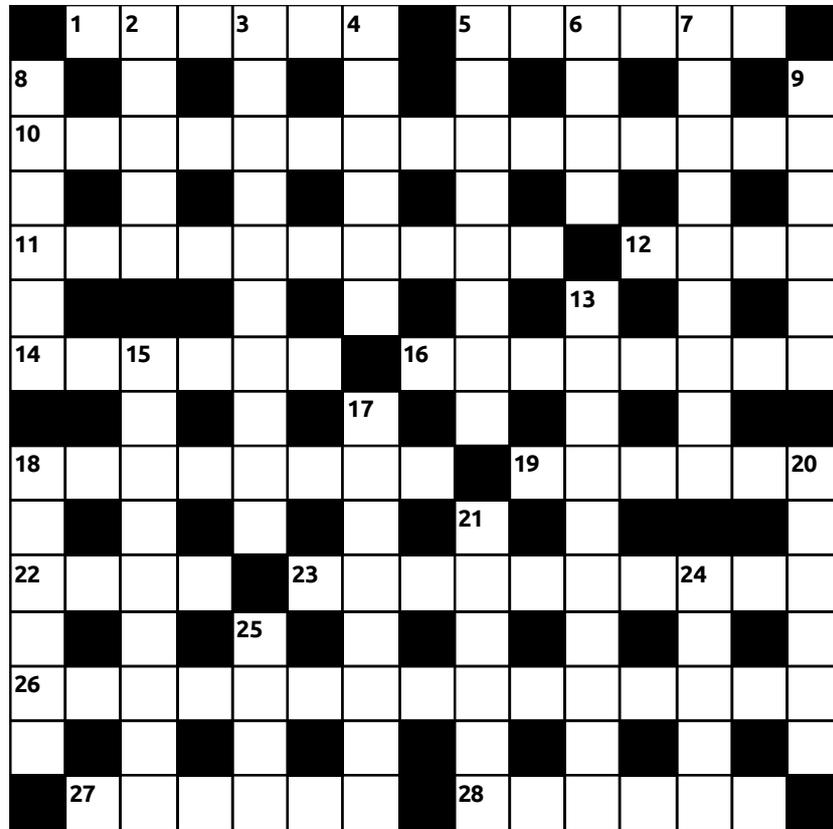


# the cruciverbalist

## Cryptic crossword #9

Set by: Hieronymus



### ACROSS

- 1 Rat actor captured essence of Scabbers (6)
- 5 Ferocious Frank ditched us for Victor (6)
- 10 Popular Scottish writer/boxer, free of drugs, embraces stepmother? (8,7)
- 11 Go live on prime-time with exceptional soldier? (5,5)
- 12 European conservative leaves ball (4)
- 14 Short woman to run for US government, perhaps? (6)
- 16 Take remedy: explosive anaesthetic (8)
- 18 Stick, bond, glue, paste (8)
- 19 European peninsula's Irish border starts upriver? (6)
- 22 Secretly rolling delicious broccoli balls (4)
- 23 Can Michael repair lifeless... (10)
- 26 ...plant, the main attraction in Palestinian city? (4-2-9)
- 27 Trendier soldier wears deer pelt (6)
- 28 Old Italian family lives in retreat with cast-iron walls (6)

### DOWN

- 2 OBE for a woman? (5)
- 3 **KEEP PLAYING CRICKET?**  
Gillespie gutted after our collapse in southern city (5,5)
- 4 King wearing undies almost gets destroyed (6)
- 5 Coyly-smiling individual is turned on by prime suspect - again? (8)
- 6 Evil media company (4)
- 7 Old soldier's rereading controversial... (9)
- 8 ...hit article on 'Gravity in *Foundation*' (6)
- 9 Top secret joints mentioned in involuntary expulsion (6)
- 13 Boils pasta and rice, say, when nursing family member (10)
- 15 Tolerate dunderhead's initially pornographic folktale (9)
- 17 Love hearts in part-charitable event? (8)
- 18 Mario's nemesis lifts tail for scan (6)
- 20 Burning various notes by setter? (6)
- 21 Annoy husband in slum (6)
- 24 Songwriter, businessman, knight? (5)
- 25 Look around a number of places (4)