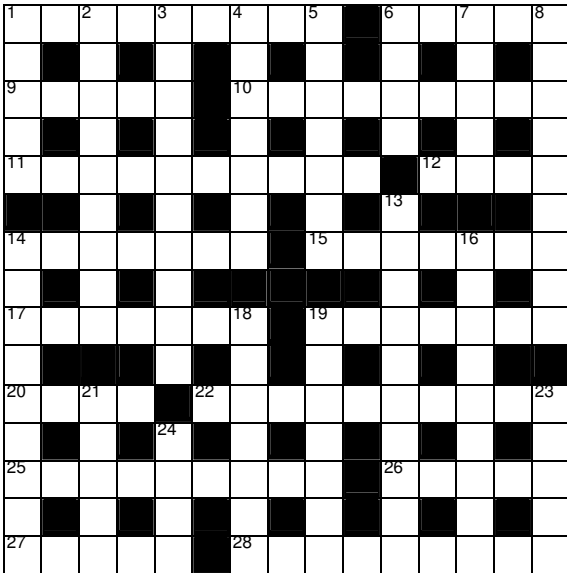


COMPETITION CROSSWORD



QUETZALCOATL

Prizes to the first two correct entries drawn.

Closing date: 31st Dec.

**To: The Editor
Hop Press
1 Surbiton Road
Eastleigh, Hants.
SO50 4HY**

Eight clues are of a kind, so lack definitions.

Across

- 1. Work an age, time I took on the job (9)
- 6. Let us petition urban society's leaders? (5)
- 9. Dig in missing cold weather's start (5)
- 10. My singers blend, each enhancing the other (9)
- 11. Cannon volley ordered, erasing NE in silence (10)
- 12. Grim picture of battle shows warriors (4)
- 14. Blots out Rhode Island city (7)
- 15. Diffuse pressure – one run to go! (7)
- 17. Common speech arises in afterthought (7)
- 19. Old whale is a light weight matter (7)
- 20. Creep a little way (4)
- 22. Power-grip bastion? (10)
- 25. Moon's core 'quake?(9)
- 26. Centre of learning post Beeching cut? (5)
- 27. Loyal bondsman in Wallonia (5)
- 28. Stop, get down and push to restart the game (9)

Down

- 1. Duck bible class – no going back (5)
- 2. Putting forward former model finally (9)
- 3. Broadcast emcee? She once flew to help (3,7)
- 4. Fit a good seating position? (7)
- 5. Error free? Gripping stuff! (7)
- 6. Lay great odds (4)
- 7. Soft edge takes one second to bend a beam (5)
- 8. I miss boys at play, getting on together (9)
- 13. Flighty autumn girl (10)
- 14. Ritually ducking exercise is, within degrees, still training (9)
- 16. A pub hero, I made a bloomer (9)
- 18. Theatrics as crack troops embrace fatigue (7)
- 19. One discontented before August 12th? (7)
- 21. Caught an old English paddle boat (5)
- 23. German libertine circumnavigator (5)
- 24. An Israeli area? (4)