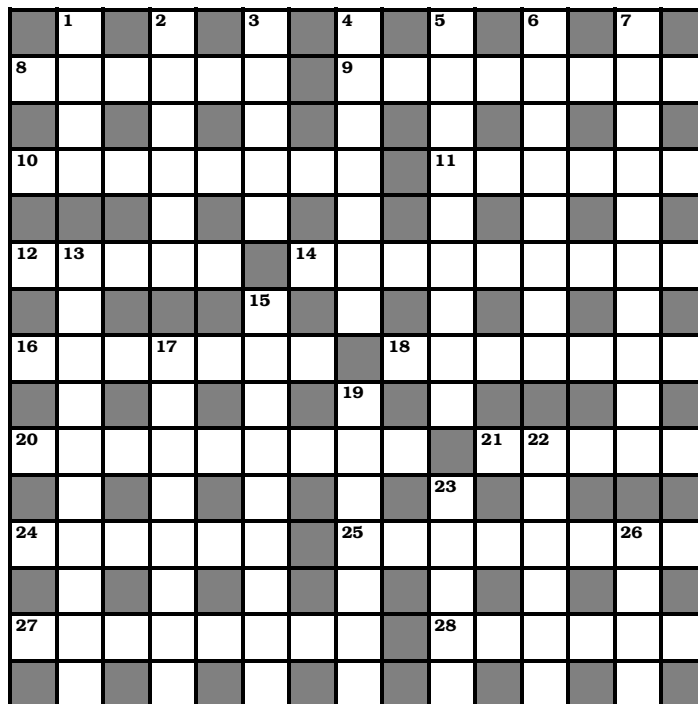


October 2017 Slot 6 OFF COLOUR by Betelgeuse

The solutions to each across clue include something in common which is omitted from the clue. Definition and number of letters apply to the complete word. Subsidiary indications apply to the word minus the common element. Down clues are normal cryptic.



Across

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>8 Capital for mother! (6)</p> <p>9 Food for insects (8)</p> <p>10 Gin-crazed poet (8)</p> <p>11 Amount prescribed for a party (6)</p> <p>12 Dance energy (5)</p> <p>14 Called in question confession of a journalist perhaps (9)</p> <p>16 Told to be quiet about bar on secrecy (7)</p> <p>18 Back at time of inscribed tablet. (7)</p> <p>20 Animal product sounds fat (9)</p> <p>21 Was sick - died (5)</p> <p>24 First signs of upheaval in any American pustules (6)</p> <p>25 Reserve old plant (8)</p> <p>27 Enlists to stir trouble (8)</p> <p>28 Finger pastry (6)</p> | <p>6 Is clever to make up a little bit of poetry (8)</p> <p>7 Insect, small, let loose over a good plant (4,6)</p> <p>13 Torment a Middle Eastern revolutionary before death (10)</p> <p>15 Bearing a brand new Tourist Trophy is magic (9)</p> <p>17 Those who make better men scared, craftily caught out (8)</p> <p>19 Devil is in want of the weak and ineffectual (7)</p> <p>22 Old Pope, note, was civilised (6)</p> <p>23 Bottom on rider bulges (5)</p> <p>26 To send up most nonsense is easy (4)</p> |
|--|---|

Down

- 1** Fishy young bird ignoring pig (4)
- 2** Signal would be comic without top disguise (6)
- 3** Tasteless? Steam our left over fish (5)
- 4** Random mating by a god is a bit rich (7)
- 5** Tinker with weapon to produce musical device (6-3)