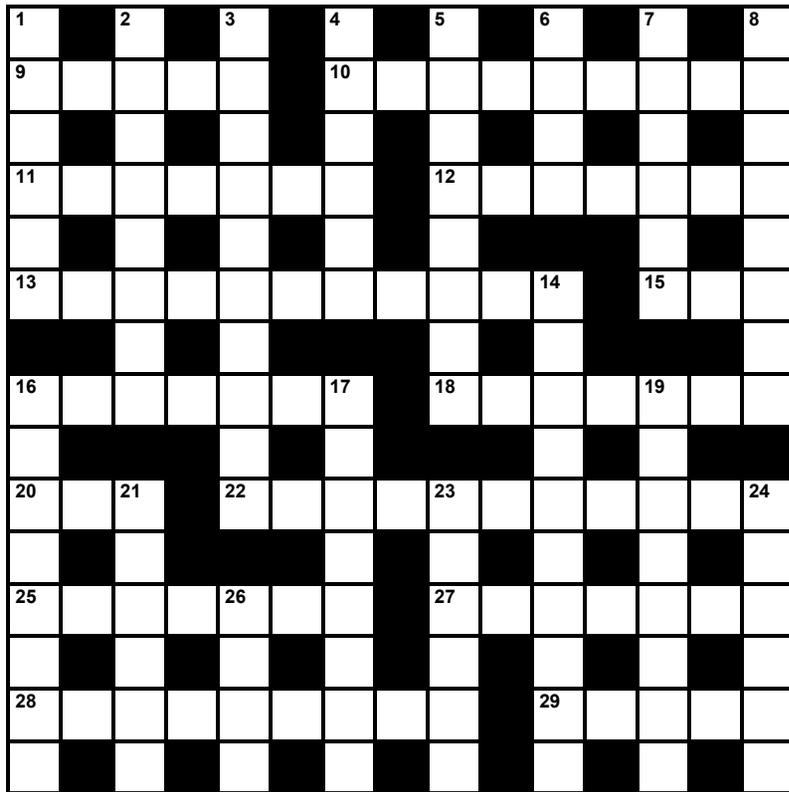


Alchemi 177 by Alchemi

Clues to the highest mountain in each of the seven continents lack definitions



Across

- 9** Painful condition of dreadful certainty (5)
10 Papers a hindrance after Stockport is cleared for a little running water (9)
11 Independent man in cold, dead atmosphere (7)
12 Old king seen in Starbucks, say, showing embarrassment (7)
13 Kilmarnock jail releases 100, then 1000, then gets demolished (11)
15 Singular ambassador is female (3)
16 What Susan Boyle, for instance, does about any heartless quotes (7)
18 English about to put on underwear (7)

- 20** Bulgarian capital's central boulevard (3)
22 Relaxing place for Italian agreement to races with popular horseman (7,4)
25 Genuine Australian model car hits princess (5-2)
27 Potentates take more than their fair share in newspapers? (7)
28 Tree precursor dropped right out about a month back (9)
29 This person's got a note about birthmarks (5)

Down

- 1/6** Wordplay on Manx cat King John asks you about initially (6,4)
2 Host essential to welcome Italy and Holland (8)
3 What cannibals do embraced by heartless left-wingers as remedies (10)
4 Navy gives support to secure body behind (6)
5 Our people have a hand in keeping king in prison ruins (8)
6 See 1
7 Queen carrying a pound to America (6)
8 Most heartless ways to conceal one inside another (8)
14 Above the earth, it's

- been through the mill too often (10)
16 Selection of vegetables dreary front to back - I'm afraid it's all over (5,3)
17 Group can evacuate glorious locations (8)
19 Pronounced shockingly killed when European court resistance fell away (8)
21/24 Nice drinks - touching service provided (6,6)
23 Enthroned last beheaded religious hero within (6)
24 See 21
26 Evenly sliced, your cake is disgusting (4)