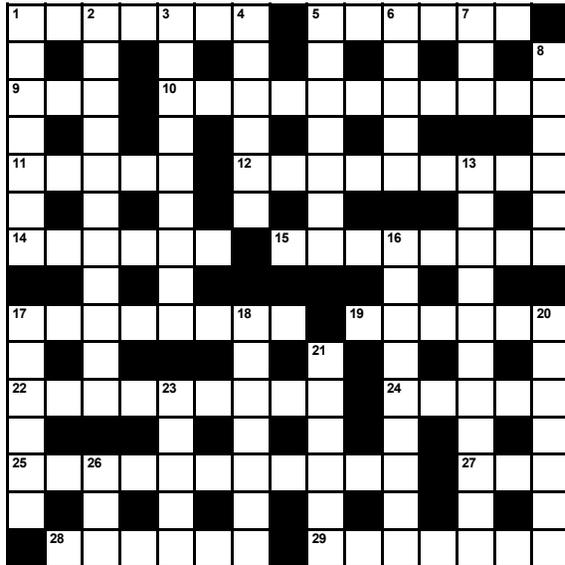


# Alchemi 263 by Alchemi



**Across**

- 1 Obese Euro-soldier coming back weary (7)
- 5 Demonstrate respect for method of cooking potatoes containing head of lettuce (6)
- 9 Honour fight not finishing as expected (3)
- 10 Farewell message plaintively asking solver to expel companion (2,6,3)
- 11 The French artist covers over very immature form (5)
- 12 Olympic team has gold-plated tantrum inside fashionable eatery (9)
- 14 Testers' heartless order puts things back the way they were (6)
- 15 One who gets treatment after spin round Romania (8)
- 17 Company books French bank manage (8)
- 19 Cooked meat separates France and England (6)
- 22 Faculty members meet slow walker, one competing in motorbike event (9)
- 24 Goodbye to director that's invested in gold (5)
- 25 Processed data like synchronised swimmers (11)
- 27 Sick government proposal to get rid of Birmingham's postal area (3)
- 28 Unruly progeny, missing papa, finding breakwater (6)
- 29 Note French city's rental agreement (7)

**Down**

- 1 Scam merchant's crab (7)
- 2 Hipster confused about ER being a cult TV series (3,8)
- 3 Rock part of church after initially getting into bed with rector (9)
- 4 Standard space above autograph (6)
- 5 Poet swaps old penny for shilling to be an older one (7)
- 6 Hang around as viking finally leaves ship (5)
- 7 Conservative dropping resistance to play (3)
- 8 Count (foreign character) right to accept British honour (6)
- 13 Alchemi and Irish setter switch position after drink in picturesque Welsh village (11)
- 16 Army officer needing artillery gets mashed potatoes and kale (9)
- 17 Military leader's note on the speed of light is of huge significance (6)
- 18 Delay interrupting quite terrible Hamlet (7)
- 20 Fairly effective leader gets lines put into mooring (7)
- 21 Performer in The Applecart is terrible (6)
- 23 Swimmer is allowed to import gold (5)
- 26 Nothing missing from 8's warm covering (3)