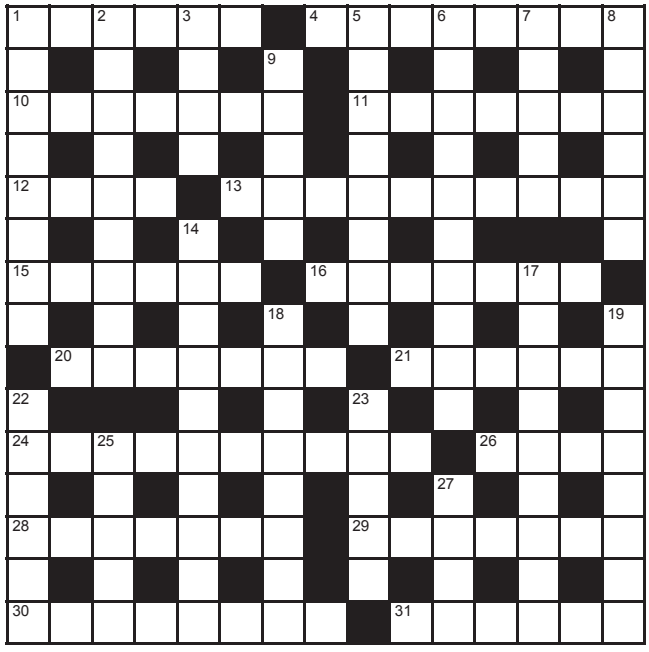
Crossword 15,324 Set by Mudd

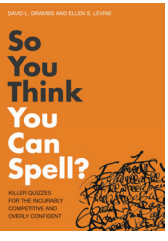
ACROSS

1 Fertiliser compound contrarily rested in spring (6)
4 Those staying outside to imbibe hot drink (8)
10 Planet – one lacking oxygen, phosphorus and air (7)
11 A daughter in character wiping rear, offensive female (7)
12 Heading off beef, horse (4)
13 Filled with power, great sun I suspect? (10)
15 A king and a knave in symbol of Armenia (6)
16 Saviour, I am he, struggling to rescue ship (7)
20 Unfinished work in finance, something to burn (7)
21 Plaid, something black and brown (6)
24 Cleaner criminal opposed war (4,6)
26 Pace wrong, stepping back (4)
28 Con once more stumped (7)
29 Fizzy drink and cheese snack (7)
30 Craft building here, one practically empty in London skyscraper (8)
31 Primate beginning to eat fruit (6)

DOWN

1 Piper cares to play an organ (8)
2 Commander, something yellow under jumper (3,6)
3 Misshapen bullet, slow-mover (4)
5 Protected on top, parcel carried boxes (8)
6 Which barmy people can lead an Ottoman army from an island? (10)
7 Fixed rate includes ten more (5)
8 Solver taking nothing from point about foreign article (6)
9 Puzzle taken up by hapless ubergeeks (5)
14 Something up one's sleeve with knight and king in reward for working mischief (5-5)
17 A newspaper editor running leaders certainly not working for PM (9)
18 A jam that's required to make coffee (3,5)
19 An insect after metamorphosis, for example (8)
22 Players' awards without a blemish? (6)
23 Little puppy extremely sad (5)
25 Those starting out in accountancy miserable, as tax inspectors fiddling people? (5)
27 Egg, side cut (4)





Copies of *How to Sound Clever* by Hubert van den Bergh and *So You Think You Can Spell* by David L. Grambs and Ellen S. Levine, published by A&C Black, will be awarded to the senders of the first three correct entries opened on Wednesday August 31. Entries marked Crossword 15,324 on the envelope, should be sent to Weekend FT, One Southwark Bridge, London SE1 9HL. Solution on September 3.

Jotter pad

Solution 15,323

Q	U	E	B	E	C	E	R		C	H	R	O	M	E
	P		A		E		I		R		A		A	
T	E	N	N	E	R		N	E	A	T	N	E	S	S
	N		A		E		G		B				T	
E	D	E	N		M	O	T	H	B	A	L	L	E	D
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H	E	L	S	I	N	K	I				B	I	F	F
	X		P		Y		L		B		R		U	
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D	A	T	E	P	A	L	M		N	A	I	L	E	D
	N		L		I		U		I		O		N	
S	T	A	K	E	D		R	E	S	O	N	A	T	E

Solution 15,312

C	A	T	H	A	Y		I	N	F	O	R	M	A	L
O		R		L				A		U		A		E
C	R	O	A	K	Y		S	T	O	T	I	N	K	A
K		L		Y		M		I		O		T		D
T	E	L	L		M	A	Y	O	N	N	A	I	S	E
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L		E		Y		E		L		I		A		A
			G	O	O	S	E	P	I	M	P	L	E	S
M		O		U		E		A		B		C		P
U	N	D	E	R	S	C	O	R	E		D	A	S	H
S		O		F		R		K		L		P		O
E	D	U	C	A	T	O	R		S	E	C	O	N	D
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