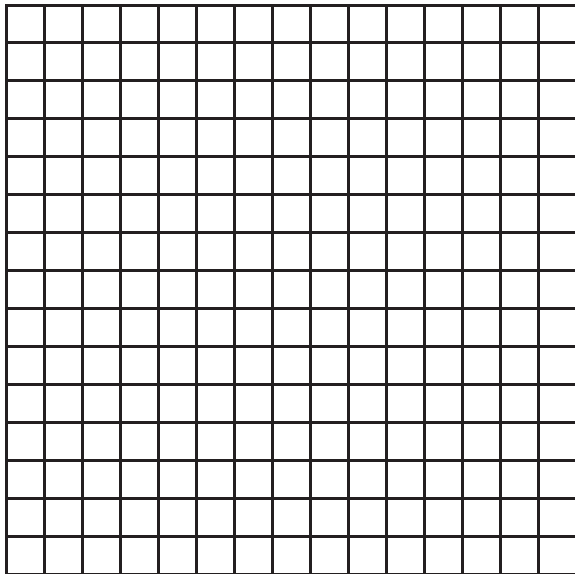


MONDAY PRIZE CROSSWORD

No. 14,503 Set by DANTE



A prize of The Good Word Guide by Martin Manser and How to Sound Clever by Hubert van den Bergh will be awarded for the first correct solution opened. Solutions by Tuesday December 31, marked Monday Prize Crossword 14,503 on the envelope, to the Financial Times, 1 Southwark Bridge, London SE1 9HL. Solution on Monday January 6.

Carte rosée

Solvers are invited to fill the blanks as well as the answers. The final grid is symmetrical if turned through 180 degrees.

ACROSS

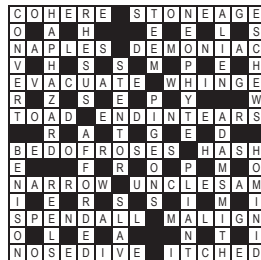
- One abandoned by actors on tour
- A sin that's understood
- People wanting a new landlord
- Opened by patients perhaps, possibly shut by the doctor
- Stretch of water
- Certainly no far cry from safety
- Just taking a second to make suggestions
- Ask for another search?
- Promenade concert performer
- Being apprehensive is not any use – although it might be
- Entry to a profession
- Kiss a girl before one is attached
- Pet greyhound?
- Hazard around a beard
- Fair bird?
- Eccentrics dance in all probability

DOWN

- They're not necessarily cut in pickle-making
- Craft likely to go under
- Sect making friends in France with Henry

Chief is in some confusion
Bizarre request – go mad!
Run more than is necessary
Does turn dead miserable
One will be put out when shown this
Fairy with opportunity for looking around
Sees Latin as a sine qua non
In an awkward position, moves ship that's been raised and escorted
Willow spruce
Undistinguished and mundane assembly
Point to eleven the French made outcasts
Doctor with young dog has to clean the mess from the floor
Tossing the caber for bitter

SOLUTION 14,491



The winner's name will be published in Weekend FT on January 4