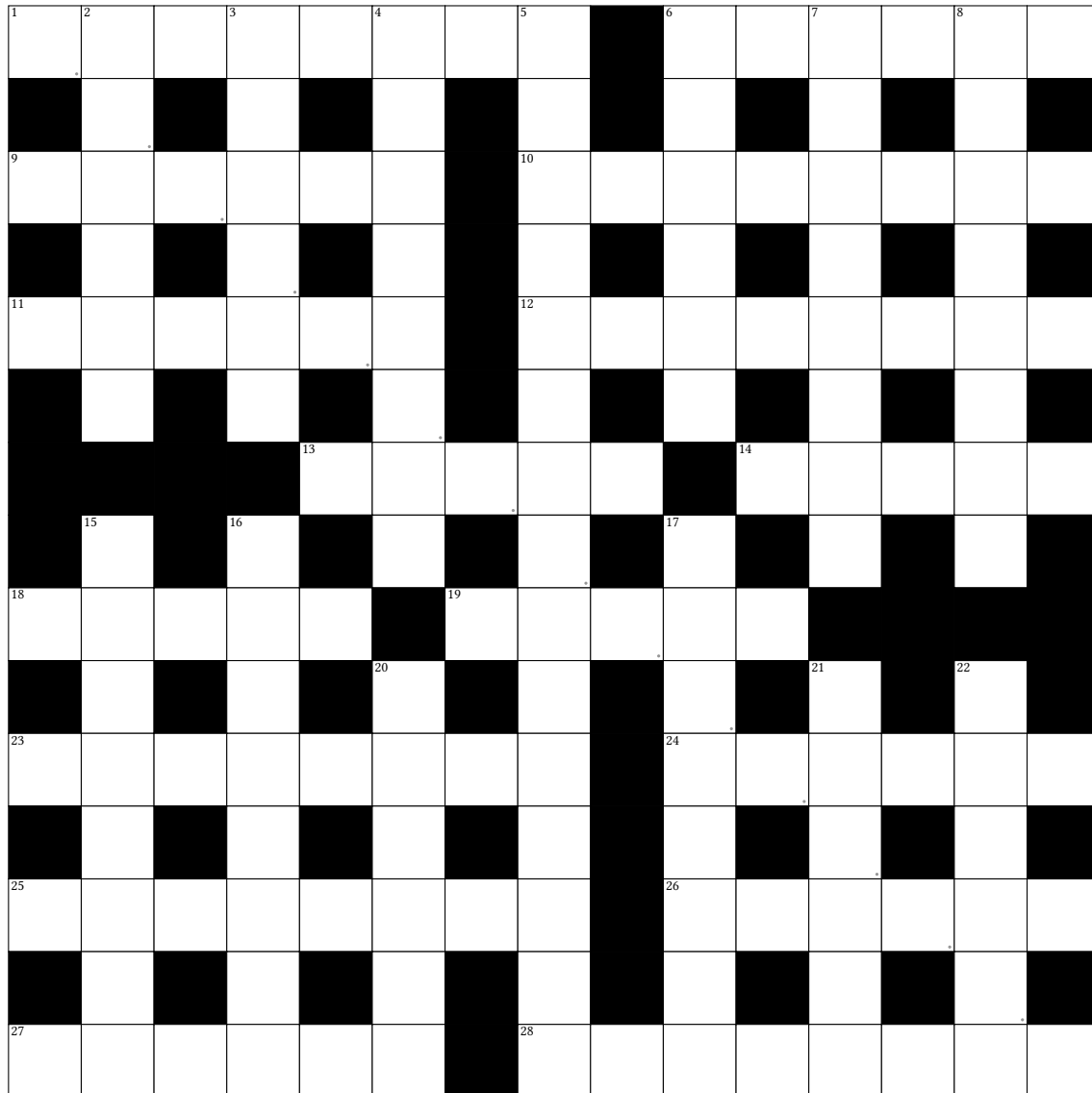


Forty-Seven Days

A cryptic crossword for day 48 of The Daily Fable. Set by hand.

Something unclued runs down the main diagonal, corner to corner. Three answers were titles of earlier days of this practice.



ACROSS

- 1 Son, with mothers, stifles (8)
- 6 Spirited sitting; seen with a cold, all mixed up (6)
- 9 Whole printer's measure, then flag (6)
- 10 Meg's tone shifted: ruby, perhaps (8)
- 11 Fruit for pop, pop and you, casually (6)
- 12 Hypotheses from the rise, reworked around nothing (8)
- 13 A game cut short hurts (5)
- 14 Something valuable in overseas settlements (5)
- 18 Kind of green, disturbed (5)
- 19 Faintly dark, large and unknown (5)
- 23 Extrovert leaving (8)
- 24 Wrote for strings, or got a point (6)
- 25 Old bishop, one waiting: Sunday paper (8)
- 26 Prophet is a one? Ah! (6)
- 27 Emperor right after Ikea's collapsed (6)
- 28 Salary band: settle, then class (3,5)

DOWN

- 2 Distraught lament? Crazy (6)
- 3 Clannish? Time to tease Al (6)
- 4 Watch and mend a pirate's cover (3,5)
- 5 Tourists' outing: vision, witnessing a stumble (11,4)
- 6 Season for one doing addition (6)
- 7 Pattern in the sky: flower and doctrine (8)
- 8 Admitted swindle, surrendered (8)
- 15 Writer, shadow, half-shade (8)
- 16 Headway for exit, energy lacking (8)
- 17 Sort form, if unknown (8)
- 20 Runner-up's metal: sliver, reworked (6)
- 21 Yarn: a moment with locks (6)
- 22 Damned awkward claim (6)

Solution

The main diagonal, top left to bottom right, reads **SET BY THE MACHINE**.

1	S	2	M	O	3	T	H	4	E	R	5	S		6	S	E	7	A	N	8	C	E
		E		R				Y				I		U			S			O		
9	E	N	T	I	R	E					10	G	E	M	S	T	O	N	E			
		T		B		P						H		M		E				C		
11	P	A	P	A	Y	A					12	T	H	E	O	R	I	E	S			
		L			L		T					S			R		I			D		
								13	A	C	H	E	S			14	A	S	S	E	T	
			15	P		16	P			H		E			17	C		M			D	
18	G	E	N	R	E			19	D	I	M	L	Y									
		N		O			20	S		N					A		21	M		22	D	
23	O	U	T	G	O	I	N	G						24	S	C	O	R	E	D		
		M			R		L		T						S		H			M		
25	O	B	S	E	R	V	E	R						26	I	S	A	I	A	H		
		R		S		E									F		I		N			
27	K	A	I	S	E	R					28	P	A	Y	G	R	A	D	E			

ACROSS

- 1 **SMOTHERS** S + MOTHERS
6 **SEANCE** anagram of SEEN + A + C(old); def. spirited sitting
9 **ENTIRE** EN + TIRE
10 **GEMSTONE** anagram of MEGS TONE; def. by example
11 **PAPAYA** PA + PA + YA
12 **THEORIES** anagram of THE RISE around O
13 **ACHES** A + CHES(s)
14 **ASSET** hidden: overseAS SETtlements
18 **GENRE** anagram of GREEN; def. kind
19 **DIMLY** DIM + L + Y
23 **OUTGOING** double definition
24 **SCORED** double definition
25 **OBSERVER** O + B + SERVER
26 **ISAIAH** IS + A + I + AH
27 **KAISER** anagram of IKEAS + R
28 **PAY GRADE** PAY + GRADE

- 15 **PENUMBRA** PEN + UMBRA
16 **PROGRESS** PRO + (e)GRESS
17 **CLASSIFY** CLASS + IF + Y
20 **SILVER** anagram of SLIVER
21 **MOHAIR** MO + HAIR
22 **DEMAND** anagram of DAMNED

DOWN

- 2 **MENTAL** anagram of LAMENT
3 **TRIBAL** T + RIB + AL
4 **EYE PATCH** EYE + PATCH
5 **SIGHTSEEING TRIP** SIGHT + SEEING + TRIP
6 **SUMMER** double definition
7 **ASTERISM** ASTER + ISM
8 **CONCEDED** CON + CEDED