

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 Friday December 28 marked Monday Prize Crossword 14,189 on the envelope, to the Financial Times, 1 Southwark Bridge, London SE1 9HL. Solution on Monday December 31.

NAME	
ADDRESS	

ACROSS

- **1** What prisoners need starting sentence (7,1)
- 5 Loud instruments? Hardly! (6)
- 10 A pine showing lengthwise (5)
- 11 Asian race resettled in tricky operation (9)
- **12** Legion left in protection of noble lady (9)
- 13 Deplore losing river bird (5)
- 14 Fanatics found among Quakers, mostly (6)
- 15 Exotic fruit looks like animal's foot (feet) (7)
- **18** Limitless prize money cricketers must have (7)
- **20** Plan to replace yen with euros, primarily, becomes the law (6)
- **22** A Frenchman's work units, nothing less (5)
- 24 I am my favourite subject, pathologically so (9)
- 25 Wrong speed measure could be critical (9)
- **26** Lover tries to show what's obvious (5)
- 27 Mistakes made by a sailor about to retire (6)
- **28** Pupil who doesn't appear to be educated (8)

DOWN

- 1 Chancellor's fortune (6)
- **2** Large number in favour of union (9)
- **3** Reduce expenses and the waistline, simultaneously! (7,4,4)

- 4 Want stupid yes-men who bow and scrape? (7)
- **6** Doesn't interfere at all, so remains thirsty, maybe (6,4,5)
- 7 One has a crack in this German city (5)
- 8 It is kept in stable to disinfect (8)
- 9 Cat returns to me with a dog's dinner (4-2)
- **16** Their act, bizarrely, needs conservative designer (9)
- 17 Get wrong girl, say, to act as umpire (8)
- **19** Alternate witness, present and past (6)
- 20 Saw dog get tangled in lead (7)
- 21 Instrument of Death (6)
- **23** Unusual roles one plays without success (5)

SOLUTION 14,177



The winner's name will be published in Weekend FT on January 5