

The Stickler Weekly 227 Solution

¹ C	R	² O	S	³ S	W	⁴ O	R	⁵ D	S		⁶ D	⁷ R	I	⁸ P
U		P		E		N		O				E		L
⁹ C	O	U	P	L	E	T		¹⁰ P	R	¹¹ E	L	A	T	E
K		L		F		H		E		N		L		A
¹² O	N	E	L	I	N	E	R			¹³ V	E	I	N	S
O		N		M		L		¹⁴ O		I		S		I
	¹⁵ S	T	A	P	L	E		¹⁶ C	E	R	U	M	E	N
¹⁷ P					O		¹⁸ V	I	E		O			G
¹⁹ R	E	²⁰ C	U	R	V	E		²¹ A	N	N	U	²² A	L	
O		O		T		L		N		M		B		²³ T
²⁴ M	E	D	I	A				²⁵ O	F	F	E	N	D	E
I		E		N		²⁶ H		L		N		O		O
²⁷ S	K	I	T	T	L	E		²⁸ O	P	T	I	M	A	L
E		N				A		O		A		E		L
²⁹ D	E	E	P			³⁰ S	T	O	R	Y	L	I	N	E

Across	Clue	Explanation
1 CROSSWORDS	Lines drawn around empty squares in sequence - puzzling stuff? (10)	CORDS outside [(S)QUARE(S) in ROW]
6 DRIP	Drug supplier and doctor, one with power (4)	DR + I + P
9 COUPLET	Pair left in car ahead of time (7)	L inside COUPE + T
10 PRELATE	Church dignitary is first to pray and tell (7)	(P)RAY + RELATE
12 ONE-LINER	Funny thing on stern of pirate ship (3-5)	ON + PIRAT(E) + LINER
13 VEINS	Traces of sedative in subclavian blood vessels (5)	sedatiVE IN Subclavian
15 STAPLE	Fastener starting to perish in old hat (6)	(P)ERISH inside STALE
16 CERUMEN	Cure disoriented people with otic discharge (7)	Anagram of CURE + MEN
18 VIE	Contest that is initiated by basketball team (3)	IE after V
19 RECURVE	Bend back constantly moving around carrying dog (7)	EVER reversed outside CUR
21 ANNUAL	Head of auditing brought in to void a book of accounts (6)	(A)UDITING inside ANNUL
24 MEDIA	Met briefly to support backing news channels (5)	(ME)T + AID reversed
25 OFFENDER	Volunteer punched by extreme criminal (8)	OFFER outside END
27 SKITTLE	Knock over slalom championship, say, with finalist from Helsinki out (7)	SKI TITLE minus HELSINK(I)
28 OPTIMAL	Best man nearly stabbing pilot going through turbulence (7)	(MA)N inside
29 DEEP	Intellectual visited ladies, say, heading west (4)	PEED reversed
30 STORYLINES	Retail outlets stocking last of celery left in plots (10)	STORES outside [CELER(Y) + L + IN]

Down	Clue	Explanation
1 CUCKOO	Nuts should be sliced mostly by cook in a mess (6)	(CU)T + anagram of COOK
2 OPULENT	Lavish musical work not finished with fast time (7)	(OPU)S + LENT
3 SELF-IMPORTANT	Two mischievous characters embraced by star not unusually arrogant (4-9)	(ELF + IMP) inside anagram of STAR NOT
4 ON THE LEVEL	Not distracted by first woman in agony behaving honestly (2,3,5)	Anagram of NOT + (EVE in HELL)
5 DOPE	Drugs look after pet with tail chopped off (4)	DO + (PE)T
7 REALISM	Practical view of things is accepted by monarchy (7)	IS inside REALM
8 PLEASING	Quietly engaging? (8)	P + LEASING
11 ENVIRONMENTAL	Green with envy - mainly tough nuts (13)	(ENV)Y + IRON + MENTAL
14 OCEAN FLOOR	Seabed of coral, one in poor condition (5,5)	Anagram of OF CORAL ONE
17 PROMISED	Tight-fisted person, finishing early in poker, is assured (8)	(MISE)R inside PROD
20 CODEINE	Established standard in drug, an analgesic (7)	CODE + IN + E
22 ABDOMEN	Stomach awfully bad writing on the wall (7)	Anagram of BAD + OMEN
23 TROLLS	Christ's back with pieces of bread and fishes (6)	CHRIS(T) + ROLLS
26 HEAT	He engaged in passion (4)	HE + AT

