

set by Dalibor

for S&B Nottingham 2025

Some solvers may perhaps experience a déjà vu but I wrote this crossword early this year, weeks before Methuselah's absolutely brilliant piday puzzle was published in the Indy.

ACROSS

- 1 Sports team crushed by Reds perhaps has small importance (11)
- 7 Monumental structure in Barcelona (3)
- 9 Hell doesn't need no reason (5)
- 10 Maniac fighting with new writer (3,6)
- **11/18** Party rule ultimately made Hitler enraged facing the result of major operation (5-4,4)
- 12 I must stop Donald's ally to remove things to a faraway place (5)
- **13** See 19 Down
- 15 Arctic peninsula where disheartened bear is found (4)
- **18** See 11
- 20 Mathematician's in favour of keeping university level less testing at the start (7)
- 23 Note: wildfire engulfs Venezuelan capital (5)
- 24 They produce notes in more than one way (9)
- **26** Frank taking time off to acquire abandoned flat displaying shades between light and dark (9)
- 27 Square lacking space for fencing position (5)
- **28** Devout person nobody listened to (3)
- **29** Piece of information about English football team (Reading?) that's much wanted (11)

- 1 Ski resort's fan who's unhappy? (8)
- 2 Cool ex-singer (8)
- 3 Lords possibly right to replace Unionist knight (5)
- 4 Film technique, the result of Apple's revolutionary movement? (7)
- 5 American writer avoiding street in German town (7)
- **6** Belarus oddly inviting head of China to save energy, expressing surprise in France (5,4)
- 7 Novelist Margaret at last admitted to a golf club (6)
- 8 Dog's a biter (6)
- 14 Current leaderless Manchester side engaging that woman succeeded (9)
- **16** Flight path in an emergency situation? (4,4)
- 17 It may be used for cleaning messy sty, a nightmare, say, to tackle (3,5)
- **19/13** Evan presenting chaotic school meeting (7,7)
- 20 Clearly paying attention but confused about having no name (7)
- 21 A fine country, mostly Asian (6)
- **22** Mythical island's volcano apparently didn't erupt towards the sky (6)
- 25 One's beginning to enjoy being in luxury car, one step up you might say (5)