

**ACROSS**

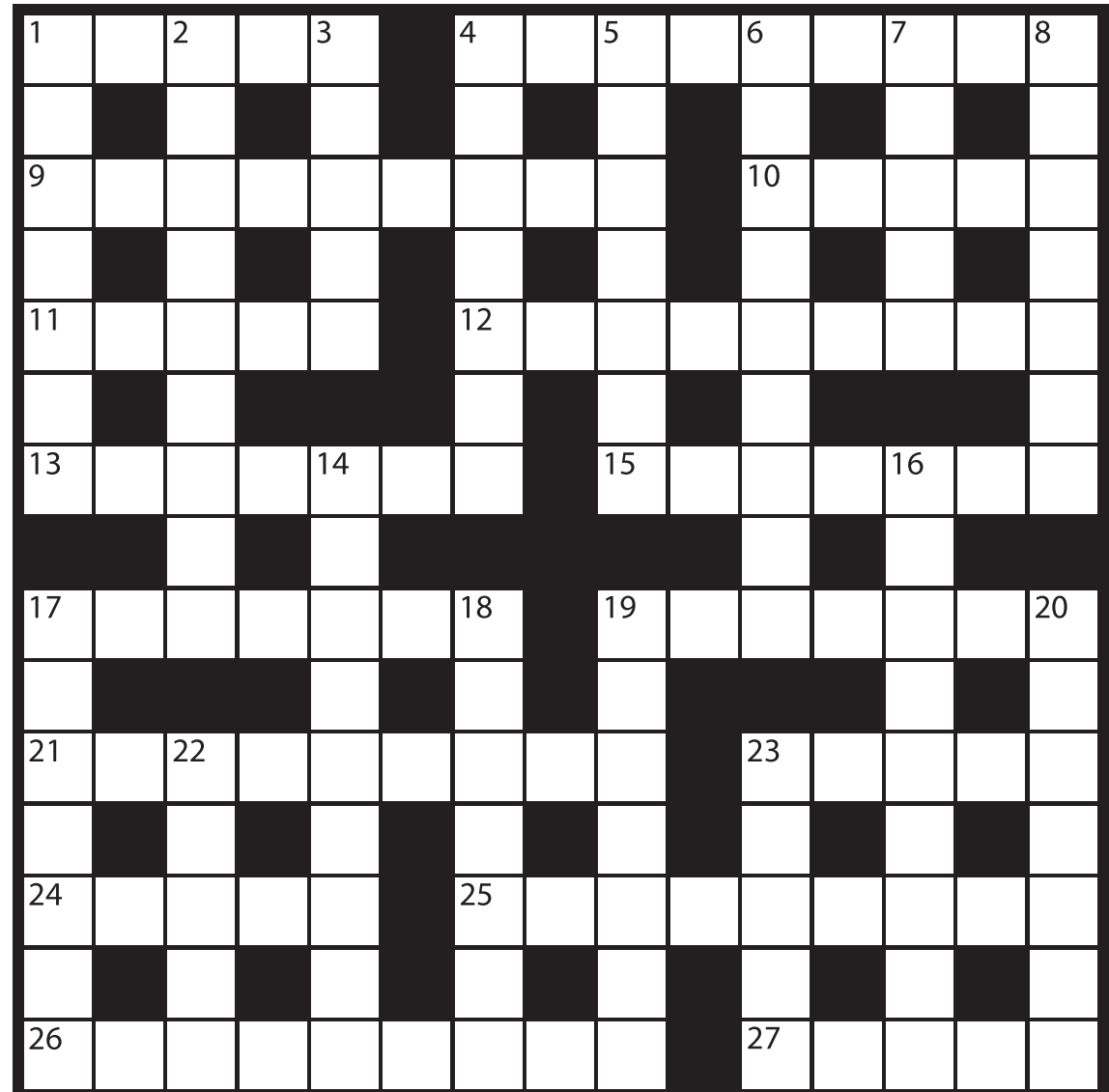
- 1 Better card (5)  
 4 Splits up, but sees a trap being set (9)  
 9 Daughter teaching must forget a logical inference (9)  
 10 Perfect cards handed out by one (5)  
 11 Annoying people who break ranks? (5)  
 12 Gives up pastry to provide initial impetus (4,5)  
 13 Put one's foot in it when up (7)  
 15 Becomes aware of a couple of Poles after a wash (7)  
 17 Small one who sheds tears - a footballer? (7)  
 19 Promises case of physical borders (7)  
 21 Urgent broadcast of item about TV and press (9)  
 23 Took cover in church, getting rebuke (5)  
 24 Explain diagnoses covering part of Asia (5)  
 25 This may require one to be patient (9)  
 26 Plant information about aged staff (9)  
 27 Tried to impress and modelled (5)

**DOWN**

- 1 News of Detective-Inspector involved in criminal sting (7)  
 2 Foreign articles on business stress (9)  
 3 Laws supporting parking agreements (5)  
 4 Commit armed robbery as result of increased criticism (5,2)  
 5 Criticise a church with a cure for all ills (7)  
 6 Check condition and restore rank (9)  
 7 Character having a share of the takings (5)  
 8 Pays respect to USA lest in a mess (7)  
 14 Deny soldiers sweet one had (9)  
 16 Soldiers may rely on these before going for a dip (3,6)  
 17 Stealing and putting card through machine (7)

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- 18 Article taken in by minister for nuclear requirement (7)  
 19 Power engineers are inclined to put on an act (7)  
 20 Got wind of dodgy descent (7)  
 22 Award given to head of department during dinner? (5)  
 23 Upset, drive dangerously (3,2)