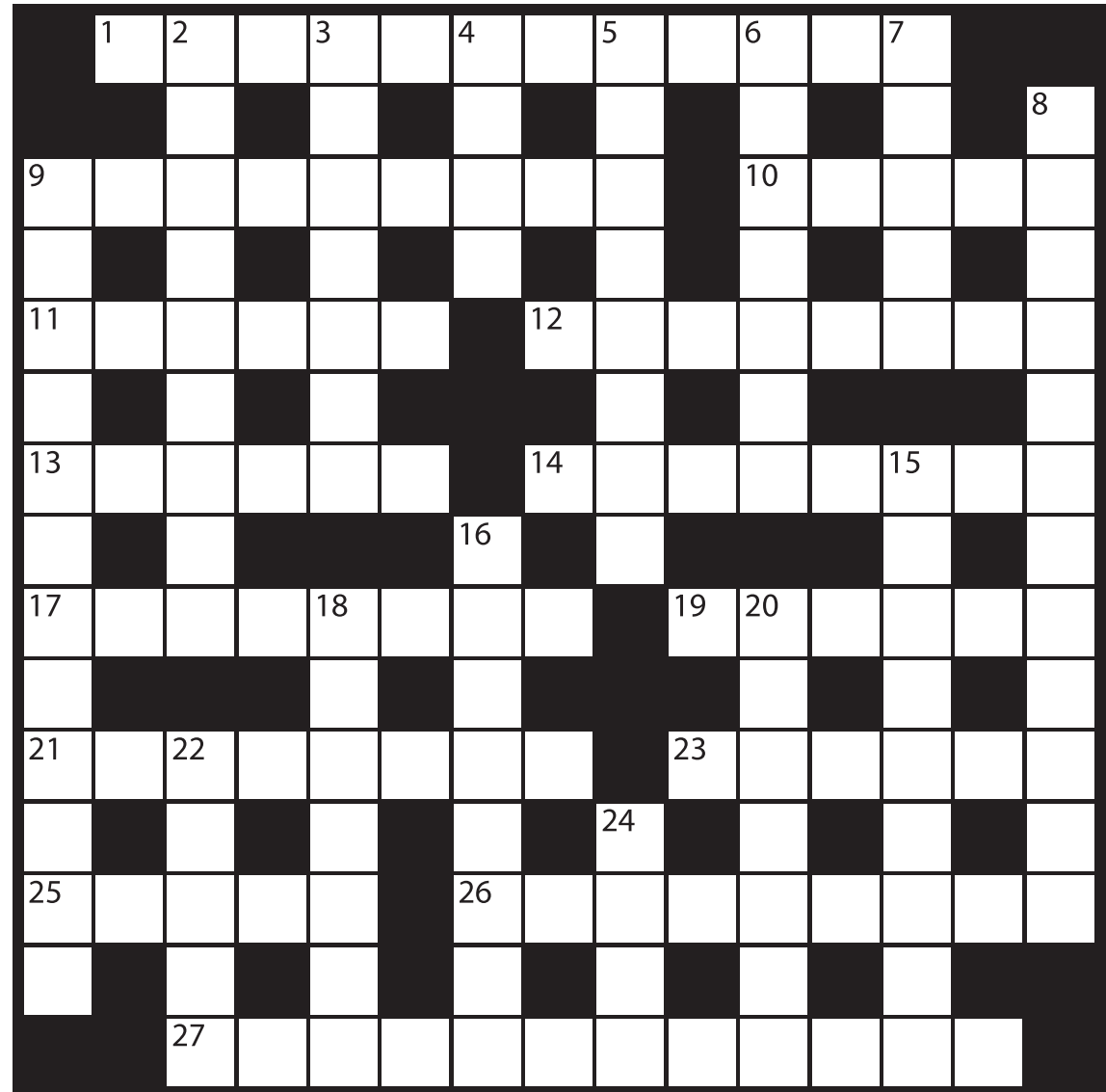


**ACROSS**

- 1 Shouting around, uncontrollable anger coming back (12)
- 9 Shrubs seen in Maybole and Erskine (9)
- 10 Primarily simple to catch slowcoach (5)
- 11 Verbally decline assignment (6)
- 12 Genial requests by worker (8)
- 13 Seventy bats, not very small (6)
- 14 Temperamental horse might be found here (8)
- 17 Ability on course that's snaking (8)
- 19 Way elder, perhaps, is nursed by good man (6)
- 21 Second new painting backed with glue to hold (8)
- 23 Scottish writer not popular with the French? Anger! (6)
- 25 Soldiers with plot that's global (5)
- 26 Sympathy lamenting eccentric (9)
- 27 Mother holding son and pet is an impressive feat (12)

**DOWN**

- 2 Heads sore, struggling to take in poetry (9)
- 3 Meg and son confused about a tropical fruit (7)
- 4 Bird to try lifting tail (4)
- 5 On heather, trap catching small young bird (8)
- 6 Flash home, as it was not regularly neglected (7)
- 7 Tough, a native protecting land (5)
- 8 Damage from horrible little rat biting people (3-9)
- 9 Old boy working to secure well-read folk's ruin (12)
- 15 Dangerous way to open bottle? (9)



- 16 Start fourth part of play with Greek character upset (8)
- 18 Infiltrating America, rogue spied to gain advantages (7)
- 20 One teaching device full of holes, not starting (7)
- 22 No space in white book (5)
- 24 Pine for young woman (4)