

**ACROSS**

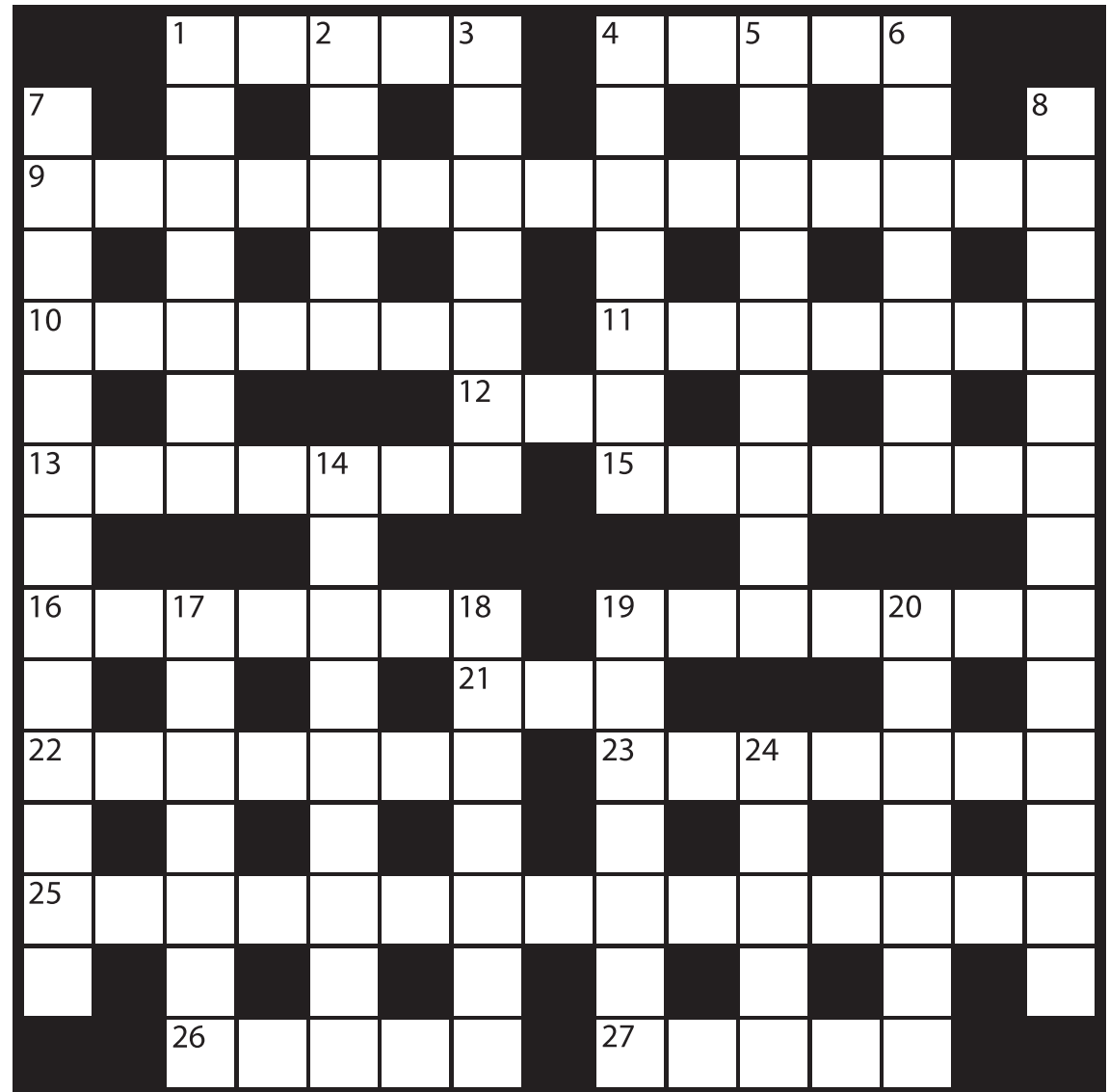
- 1 Scottish author met in Leith - never eschewed starters (5)  
 4 Top trees at the start (5)  
 9 Strangely enough, I'll cap solution - I find mirage? (7,8)  
 10 Abducts child, then has 40 winks (7)  
 11 Books greeting for Shakespearean protagonist (7)  
 12 Pull, but not from East? (3)  
 13 Tense over sunstorm (7)  
 15 Main bike races for the French Cranes here? (7)  
 16 Last longer than university water treatment (7)  
 19 Mines gain cap for Penelope (7)  
 21 A year in a Scottish town (3)  
 22 Chill from what follows Thursday's child? (7)  
 23 Popular supporter gives thanks to foreign princess (7)  
 25 Discussions here for pear producers (10,5)  
 26 Poser discomfited by climbing equipment (5)  
 27 Loves to work out the answer (5)

**DOWN**

- 1 Bullish antagonist in uniform at a dormitory (7)  
 2 First-class slaughter almost retreats with Italian girl (5)  
 3 Signs up for tables after a couple of points (7)  
 4 Chaps chop down with cries of pain (7)  
 5 Unruly actors' wall coating (9)  
 6 Stumble over permission for one of a group (7)  
 7 Verbally encourage monarch to leave rink? One has reservations (7,6)

Friday, 15th March, 2019

No. 14,806 by NKD



- 8 Early poker's on the move for John Higgins (7,6)  
 14 Spend too much time in retirement (9)  
 17 It may water down with less fat (7)  
 18 Aliens lose street club (7)  
 19 Costs include new regal types (7)  
 20 Half the score can be rational (7)  
 24 The big lad is lethal (5)