

ACROSS

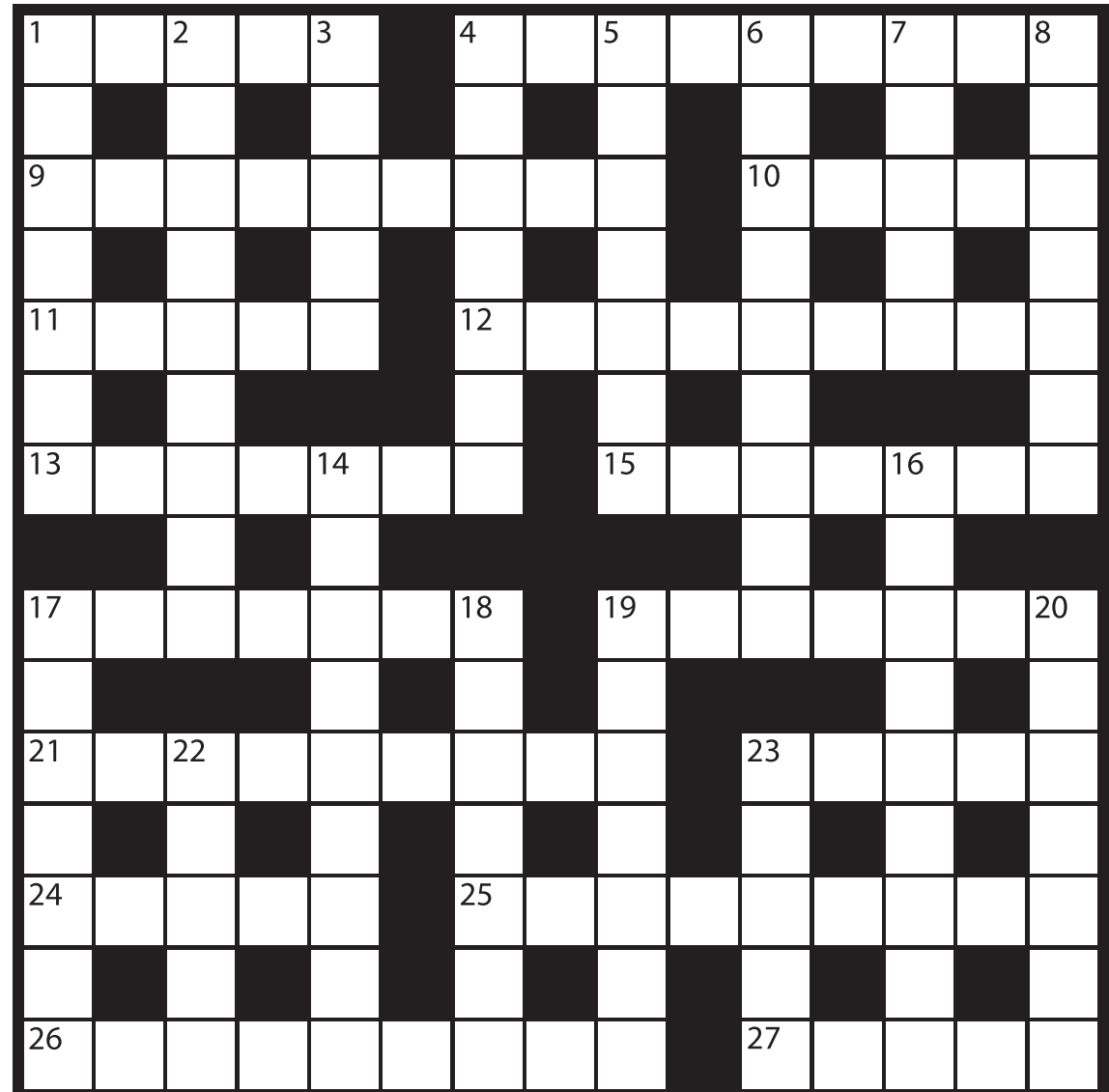
- 1 Wild animal shot after racket (5)
 4 Defender, old-fashioned and effective in retrospect (9)
 9 Red tape sees equipment and morale in pieces (9)
 10 Gather it's good without fat (5)
 11 Put off by venison - about time! (5)
 12 Substitute playing with rare gusto (9)
 13 Followed son and blabbed (7)
 15 Rear of hall protected by strange spiral columns (7)
 17 Rips off items of clothing (7)
 19 Packs case of perry cider (7)
 21 Current Moslem art in disarray (9)
 23 Admit a serviceman holding a weapon (5)
 24 Eventually, crash-test should expose material (5)
 25 Contamination from pool - until sorted out (9)
 26 Disinfects bad stain and gets up, ignoring origin (9)
 27 Strips for shuteye on the way back (5)

DOWN

- 1 Mocks date disheartened with fairground attractions (7)
 2 I rang them about a dream like this (9)
 3 Working atmosphere for broadcasting (2,3)
 4 Perused arguments in bed (7)
 5 Get a lift from revolutionary virgin returning (5,2)
 6 One takes the lead from vicar's attire (3,6)
 7 Letter from volunteers supporting article (5)
 8 Academic type with solutions for asses (7)
 14 Gives up pastry to provide initial impetus (4,5)

Wednesday, 27th March, 2019

No. 14,816 by JM



- 16 Supply weapons before cities arranged ceasefire (9)
 17 Iron men must get girls (7)
 18 Signs of promotion for loading rubbish aboard ship (7)
 19 Tries buttonholing politician in auctions (7)
 20 Items worn by first of young figureheads (1-6)
 22 Record holder? (2-3)
 23 Better card? (5)