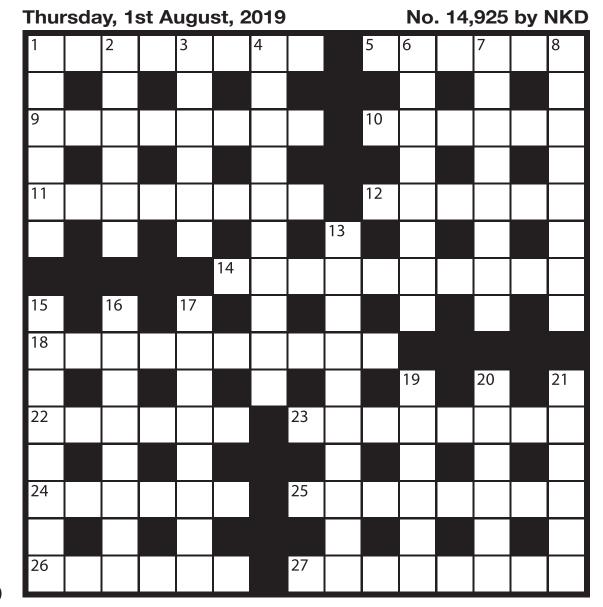
ACROSS

- **1** Aggravation on ship becomes redundant (8)
- 5 Carnival occasion found if seat is disturbed (6)
- 9 Finished with spoken symphony by Beethoven (8)
- 10 Healthy transport is in decay (6)
- 11 His creative work is deeply impressive (8)
- 12 Father's bird is too old for the job! (4, 2) (6)
- **14** Game boss producing good position for expansion (10)
- **18** New Year I'm bored without a sewer's work (10)
- 22 Complains about heartless energy source embracing what's mature (6)
- 23 Secret coteries, perhaps (8)
- 24 A legendary victim of soaring ambition (6)
- 25 Firm clue for "compassionate" (8)
- 26 Little relative absorbs woman with riddles (6)
- 27 Various designs to a dress (8)

DOWN

- 1 Sleep with the French in Italy (6)
- 2 Points to a portent, which could be red and a-flutter (6)
- **3** Laugh at chump, bringing back a cleaning brush (6)
- **4** People weren't at liberty in this old traffic (5,5)
- 6 Fashionably tailored, he's concerned with his image (8)
- 7 Nuts are found in them and bolts (8)
- 8 A non-drinker I duet badly with that's my position! (8)
- 13 Those who are named for the post (10)
- 15 Using new enclosure, initially, for birds (8)



- 16 Compel to do a favour and include thanks in return (8)
- **17** A variety of Bute rose, I admit (2,2,4)
- 19 A firm after fresh cuts still goes to the wall! (6)
- 20 No amateur is apt to benefit (6)
- 21 Climbed up to be weighed (6)