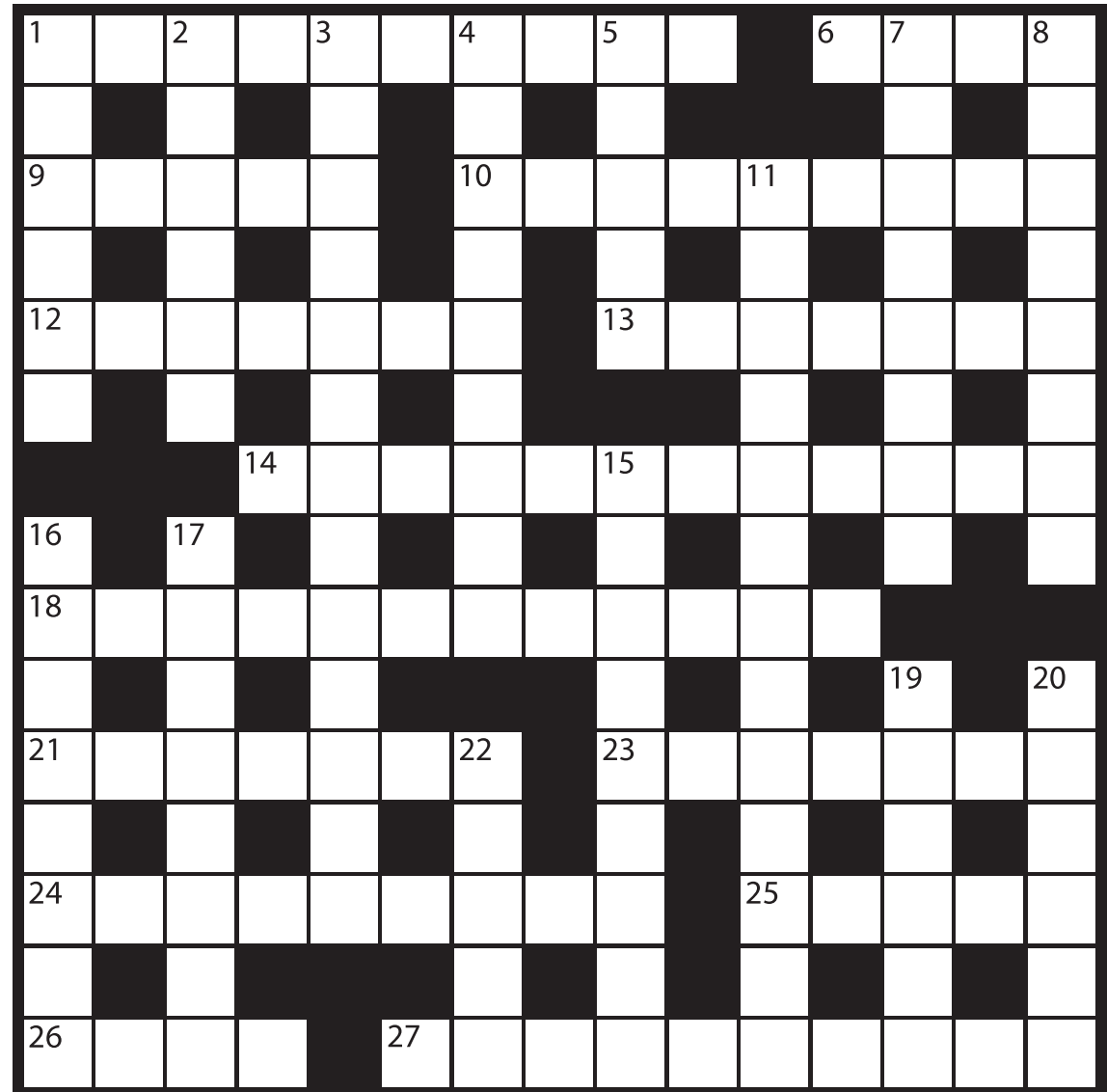


ACROSS

- 1 Friend restraining one primarily dim bully (10)
- 6 Cereal over to the right of sink (4)
- 9 Plant husband right to put in vessel (5)
- 10 Loss of shape as gherkin gets chopped (9)
- 12 Aussie mate consuming large pie (7)
- 13 After overturning French wine, golfer cries (7)
- 14 What if I reply wrongly? Take a risk! (4,4,4)
- 18 Thought from journalist about freedom (12)
- 21 Golden plant in garden (7)
- 23 Two guards king's sent west from Middle East (7)
- 24 Flower a daft sheep brought back (9)
- 25 Outdated interior of cold home (5)
- 26 Tempted woman with new uniform (4)
- 27 Deny scarf's modified for costume (5,5)

DOWN

- 1 Losing heart, examine small creature (6)
- 2 Hollow tooth with nicks pulsates with pain (6)
- 3 Phone lines obscuring sign for book provider (6,7)
- 4 Weird oyster found in the German ship (9)
- 5 Good person upset about pot's cracks (5)
- 7 Alec disheartened a medic trashed student (8)
- 8 Love poetry about uplifting boss (8)
- 11 Robin, perhaps, following strangely huge robin in local area (13)
- 15 Basic home of metal housing queen poorly, we heard (9)
- 16 Back of cave, toad wriggling (8)



- 17 Rugby player impeding nasty European is obstacle (8)
- 19 Interfere, announcing prize (6)
- 20 Addicts of US sitcom with no resistance (6)
- 22 Letter delivered heartless answer (5)