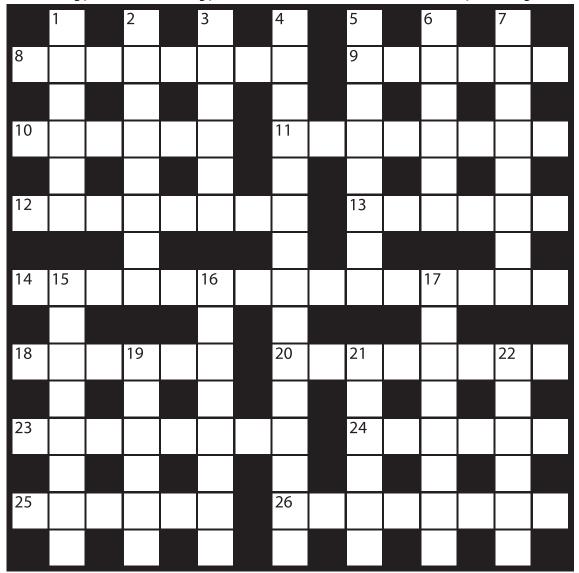
ACROSS

- 8 Old man with blue bean bag regularly seen in US city (8)
- 9 Companion wearing huge trousers (6)
- 10 Prince's tie returned by journalist (6)
- 11 Brawny Pole cutting wood (8)
- **12** Horse crossing busy road initially expecting food (8)
- 13 Around Arkansas, dog brought back rope (6)
- **14** Children make Sam uneasy; they generally imply work (6,3,6)
- **18** Money (about a pound) required for carriage (6)
- 20 Hate manager's pay? (8)
- 23 Caught malaria after cooking Italian food (8)
- **24** Drugs not primarily for those in possession (6)
- 25 Maintains wheels without a worry (6)
- **26** Hinted about missing husband, providing unknown name (8)

DOWN

- 1 Kicking and hitting traps peaceful man (6)
- 2 Obese gangster is beginning to mention resignation (8)
- **3** Fellow describing each day precisely (4-2)
- **4** Doctor regrets it is not a medical problem (15)
- 5 Hero is in pain, keeping poorly (8)
- 6 Unlimited underwear for a pound (6)
- 7 Come together, resolving veto in parliament (8)
- **15** Reveal a car technology incorporating sort of menu (1,2,5)

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- 16 Soldiers try extremely simple drill (8)
- 17 Sailor holding bag carrying my headgear (8)
- 19 A puzzle has daughter speechless (6)
- 21 Sailor wearing shirt the wrong way it might sink ship (6)
- 22 Tax castle, one found in river (6)