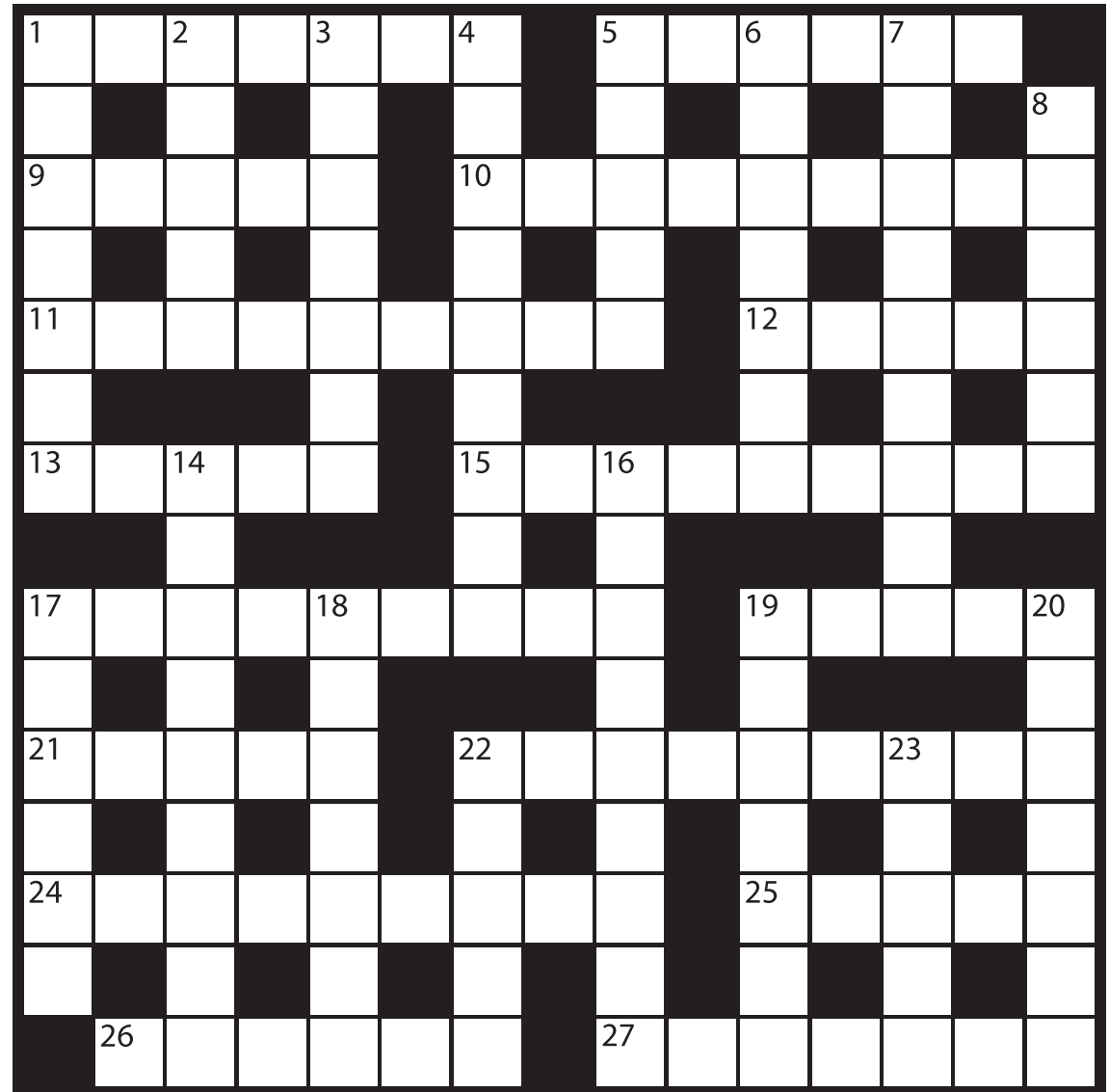


ACROSS

- 1 Second vehicle hired out is red (7)
- 5 Avoid unpleasant space, up to a point (6)
- 9 City has love for ladies' man (5)
- 10 Exotic tangerine from South America (9)
- 11 Type of fan for the dentist? (9)
- 12 Atmospheric layer, Australia needing one (5)
- 13 Wanderer is number crazy (5)
- 15 Graduate finds strange article relating to germs (9)
- 17 Diana's to get a soft fruit, then vanish (9)
- 19 Covering over the hen? (5)
- 21 The French are able to come round and do the housework (5)
- 22 Society member to release mother and child (9)
- 24 Careless Nigel upset chap behind (9)
- 25 A price to pay to get to the coral reef (5)
- 26 Architect by church gets the tool (6)
- 27 Gave up work and went to bed (7)

DOWN

- 1 Ambition in boy to become a doctor (7)
- 2 Let in to confess (5)
- 3 Unruly lad tore sports garment (7)
- 4 Piece of land can be easily managed (9)
- 5 Regal sort of composer (5)
- 6 Forgive a swindle that's over (7)
- 7 Strange vision seen in regularly spooky plant (6,3)
- 8 Some nice, really nutritious grain-based food? (6)
- 14 Errand boy turns green after confusion (9)
- 16 Tradesman will complain and then go in (9)



- 17 European community in depression – that's good (6)
- 18 Writes to one on retirement pay (7)
- 19 Roast meat with a good man (7)
- 20 Row went ahead and caused annoyance (7)
- 22 Shelf displayed meat (5)
- 23 Scrub clean with acid round top of cistern (5)