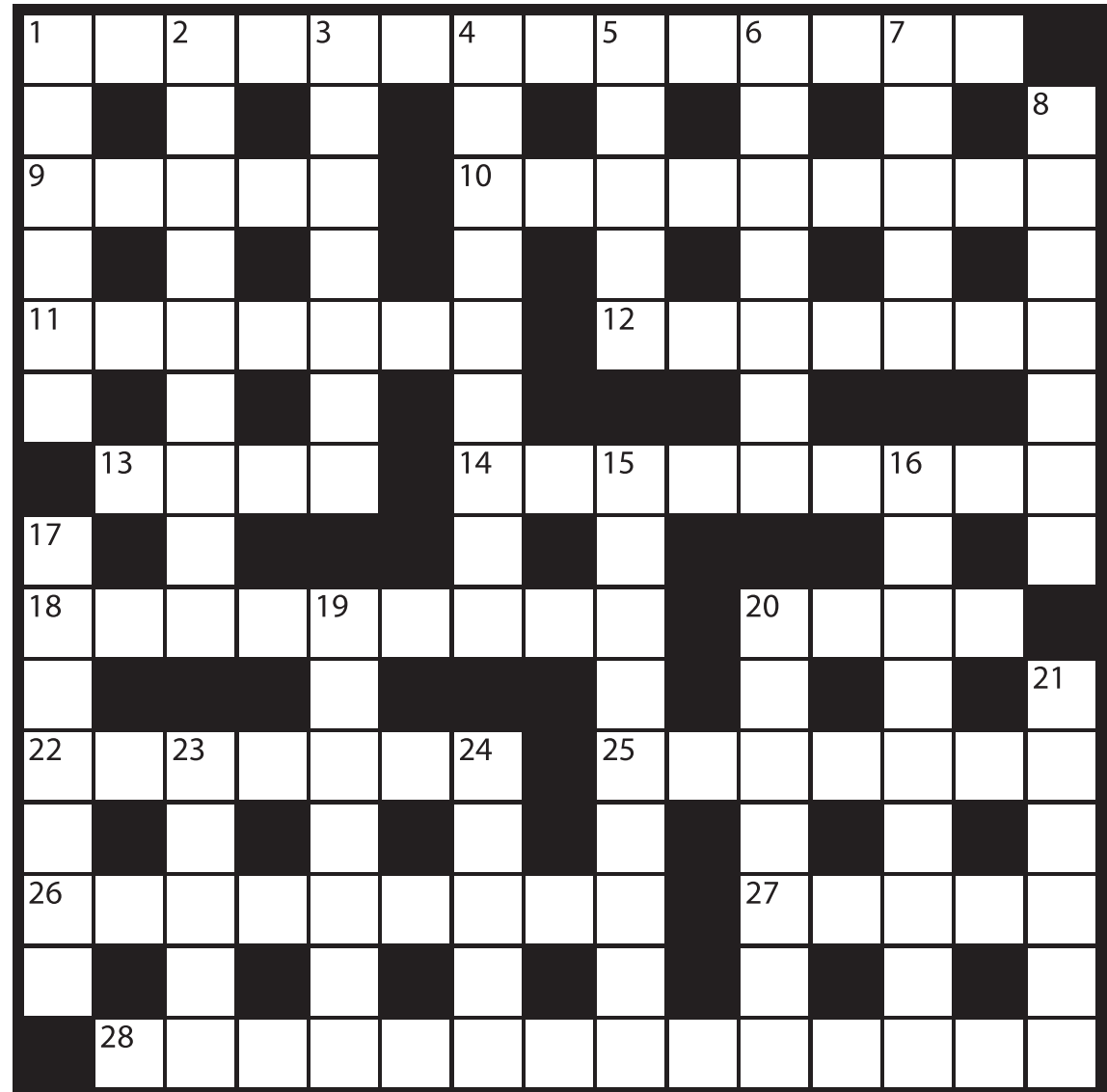


ACROSS

- 1 The most quiet? (6,8)
- 9 Film discomfort in country (5)
- 10 Most foolish however (9)
- 11 Labour leader ignored by nice rustic person (7)
- 12 Bag claimed by Russians at Chelsea (7)
- 13 Some paid less, lazy (4)
- 14 Prepare to give another send-off (9)
- 18 Tinier sort of insect always moving (9)
- 20 Book's truthful content (4)
- 22 One-eyed giant cuts short ride to military tasks (7)
- 25 Male with mail has no stamp, possibly (7)
- 26 Haughty devil won't open grave (9)
- 27 Bad-tempered riverbank character (5)
- 28 TV detective reports in, comes unstuck (9,5)

DOWN

- 1 Mountain expert's turn of phrase (6)
- 2 Placed ideally in tree (9)
- 3 Salt fool's taken with speed (7)
- 4 Civil force capture a king with serviceable relics (9)
- 5 Girl with small trousers (5)
- 6 Spun stick round gallery (7)
- 7 West Highland constituents showing a bit of leg (5)
- 8 Musician beyond room is German (7)
- 15 Points at a new appetiser (9)
- 16 Roughly-guessed value to master, I suspect (9)
- 17 Get involved with stone feature (5,2)
- 19 Self-inflating action causing dreadful riot with Peg (3,4)



- 20 Odd sort on odd platform (7)
- 21 It'll increase reactions in a frenzy, merely (6)
- 23 Bird at least partly dressed? (5)
- 24 Set to pinch regularly and long-suffering (5)