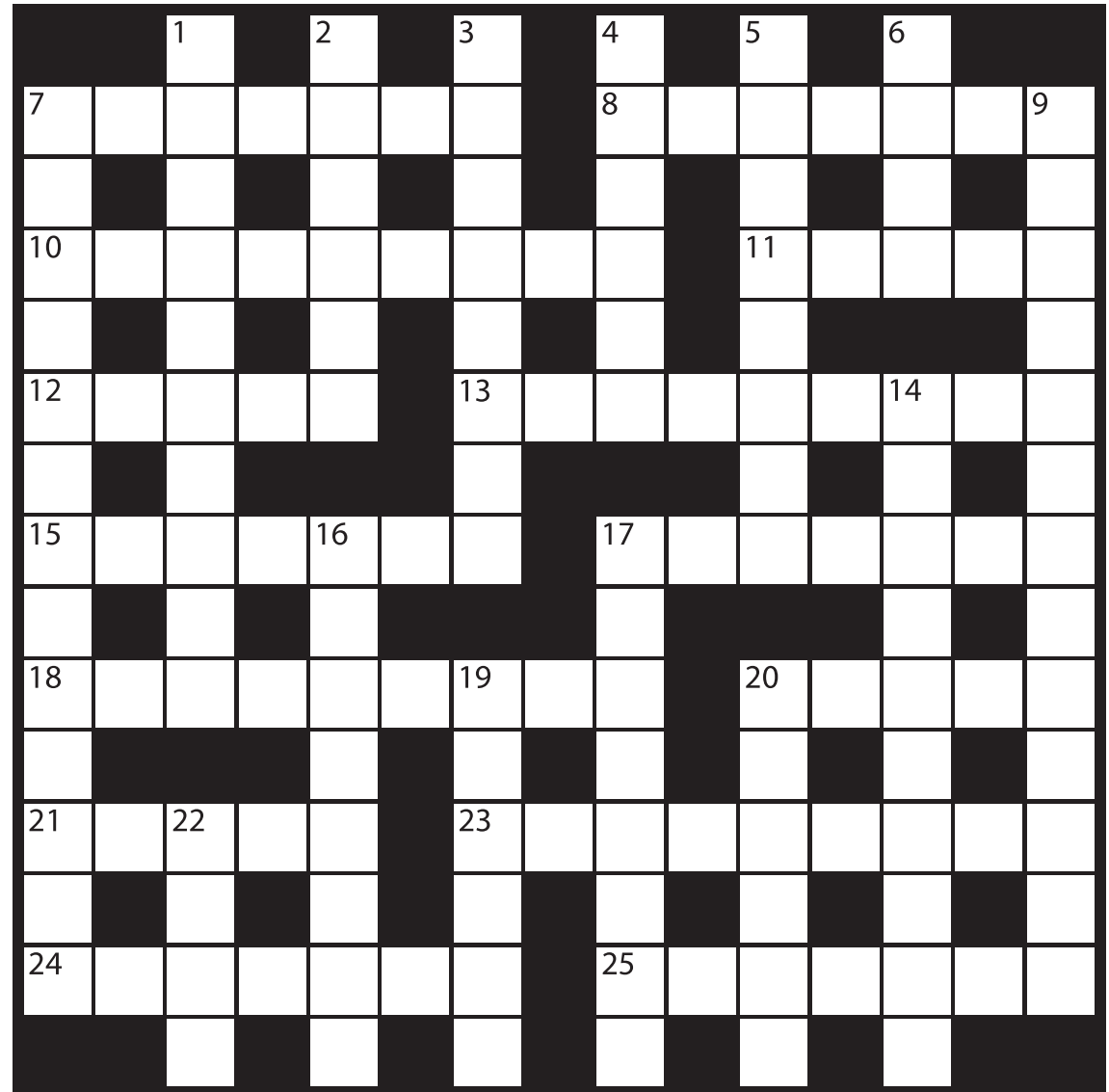


ACROSS

- 7 Alien article grabbed by bird (7)
- 8 Enmity flowed against place of law, mostly (7)
- 10 Splendid reading novel about map-makers (9)
- 11 Phone back to acquire island plant (5)
- 12 Washed front of clarty bank (5)
- 13 Advert with way of expressing mania (9)
- 15 Triumph being involved in new tune release (7)
- 17 Nit-picker is fine with American location (7)
- 18 Witless rugby player skipping caught by journalist (4-5)
- 20 Visitor having some wind consume starter of egg (5)
- 21 'That hurt', ruffian admitted (5)
- 23 Sign of distress from old cats we shocked (4,5)
- 24 Ally harbouring revolutionary weapon (7)
- 25 Back at home, cuddly toy gets spoiled (7)

DOWN

- 1 Late Norman bust is decorative (10)
- 2 Hamish finally died horribly, stripped and buried (6)
- 3 Be creative in North-east, receiving zero tax (8)
- 4 Romeo possessed by demon being familiar (6)
- 5 Releases skin protection cream, bringing top down (8)
- 6 Rank of figure that's swapped sides (4)
- 7 Priests around chamber eating meal that's hallucinogenic (5,8)



- 9 Wreck in crude test to put back together (13)
- 14 Carries out tools (10)
- 16 Boz's plot died — one's dismissed and stuck (8)
- 17 Faith, if upset, fifty put in God (8)
- 19 Recoiled from king, evil, but not wife (6)
- 20 Try second drink and rabbit (6)
- 22 Pleasant having recess with hour to spare (4)