

**ACROSS**

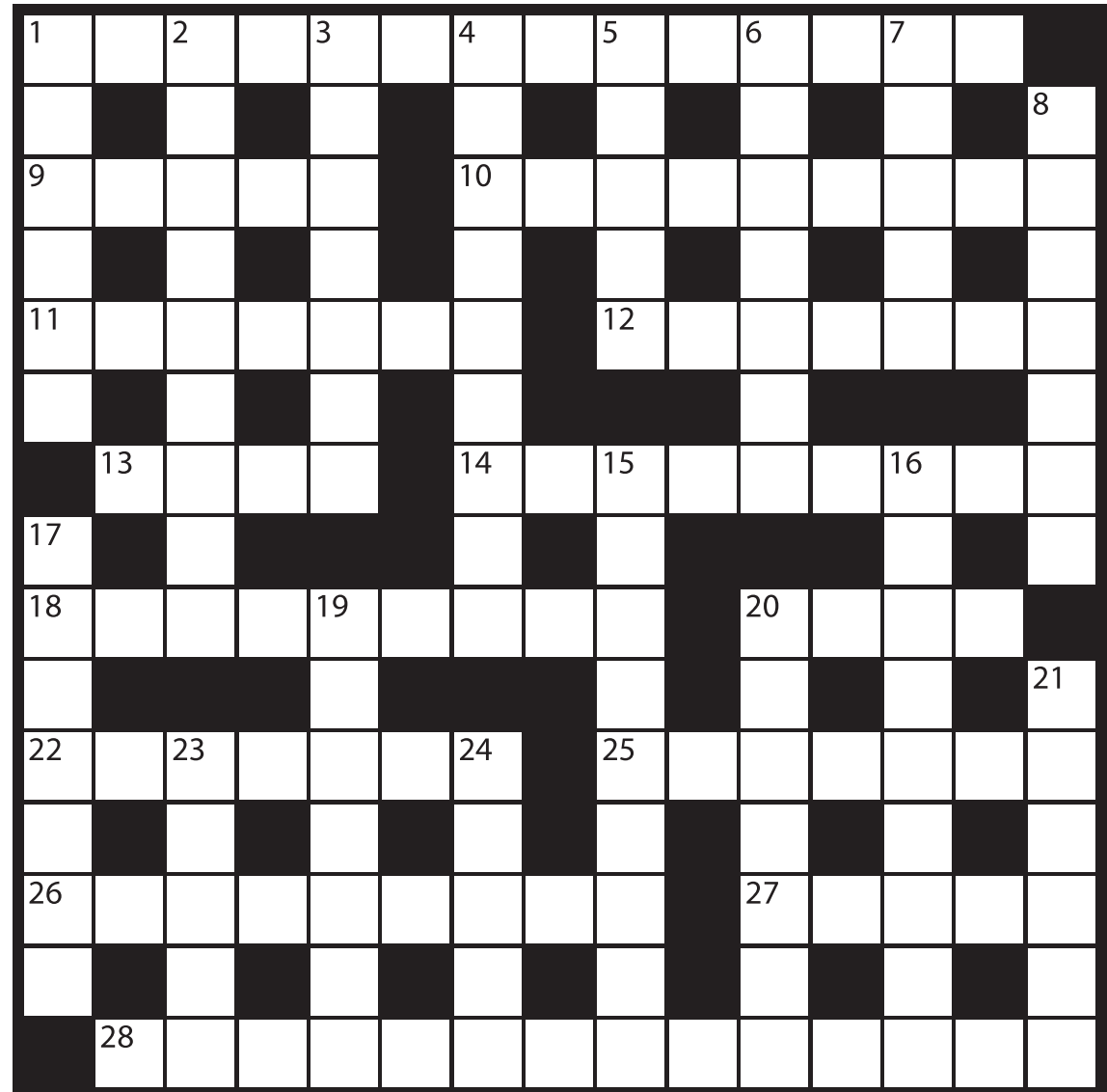
- 1 Make idiot finance it with credentials (14)  
 9 Talk foolishly about Dad (5)  
 10 Substance for carving altar base, perhaps (9)  
 11 Gun lad waves about one without enthusiasm (7)  
 12 Spectre appears softly before a month is out (7)  
 13 Shrill greeting, we hear (4)  
 14 Term's rite abandoned for the academic session (9)  
 18 Discussed grant by socialist (9)  
 20 Get remarkably near (4)  
 22 Boor removed bloodsucker, say, it's automatic (7)  
 25 Candidate, one muddled about pit (7)  
 26 Shows mercy to Josh inside dish (5,4)  
 27 Noisily drink with slight pressure (5)  
 28 A re-entry plan, it fails between Earth and Mars, perhaps (14)

**DOWN**

- 1 Spike the demon drink (6)  
 2 No longer stress it's something added to the building (9)  
 3 Done all the same round river (7)  
 4 Swindler of German wife and daughter getting rest cure (9)  
 5 Confine ringleader in settlement (5)  
 6 Scone made Kate ace (3-4)  
 7 Evenly poach treat for eight musicians (5)  
 8 First US election (7)  
 15 Ones entering country, Asian republic (9)  
 16 Spider is natural at weaving (9)  
 17 Thespian's current hair (7)

Sunday, 25th July, 2021

No. 15,640



- 19 In context, remembered as severe (7)  
 20 All together with regard to church service, as stated (2,5)  
 21 River to work steadily and intensely (6)  
 23 Pressed meat gives one physical strength (5)  
 24 Part of speech important to short ape (5)