

ACROSS

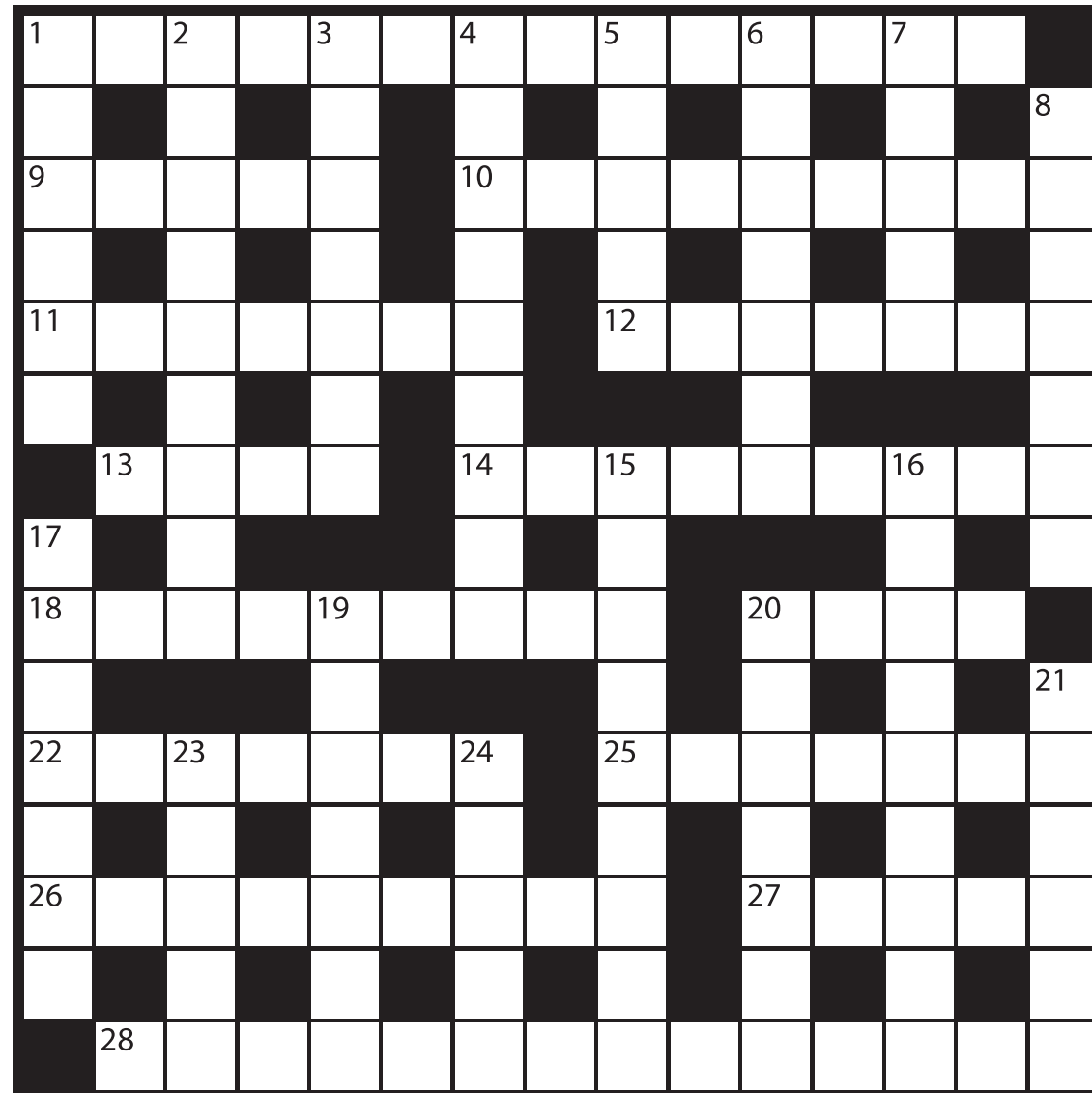
- 1 Stay cheerful – that’s bad advice for a boxer (4,4,4,2)
 9 Drive away the Spanish salesman first (5)
 10 Signs a tribute to Eddie’s cat, strangely (9)
 11 Yes-man on a go-slow (7)
 12 Snake in old coach (7)
 13 Call for item of jewellery (4)
 14 Official with many young flowers in sultanate (9)
 18 Identification found in gift for head of republic (9)
 20 One stubbornly going on foot? (4)
 22 Title of the French game (7)
 25 Top bowler (7)
 26 Make copy of plate Eric smashed (9)
 27 The thank-you letter (5)
 28 Perhaps fail, making some antacid (4,2,8)

DOWN

- 1 Risk spilling church liqueur (6)
 2 Underline weird semi-shape (9)
 3 You will hear record of Christmas fuel (4,3)
 4 Queen in ramshackle dungeon has suffered (9)
 5 In essence, dark wood (5)
 6 Urged popular edict to be changed (7)
 7 Up to the moment peacekeepers lit up (5)
 8 Worker returns holding Indian robe for Russian empress (7)
 15 During another Sabbath he embraced biblical woman (9)
 16 Mother hangs about, pretends she’s ill (9)
 17 Rests with arachnids (7)

Sunday, 12th September, 2021

No. 15,689



- 19 Skater’s arena one’s topping off with writing fluid! (3,4)
 20 One mist swirling round will make things damp (7)
 21 Fleet to supply weapons to woman (6)
 23 Mention island in madcap riddle (5)
 24 Mark puts on female garment (5)