

ACROSS

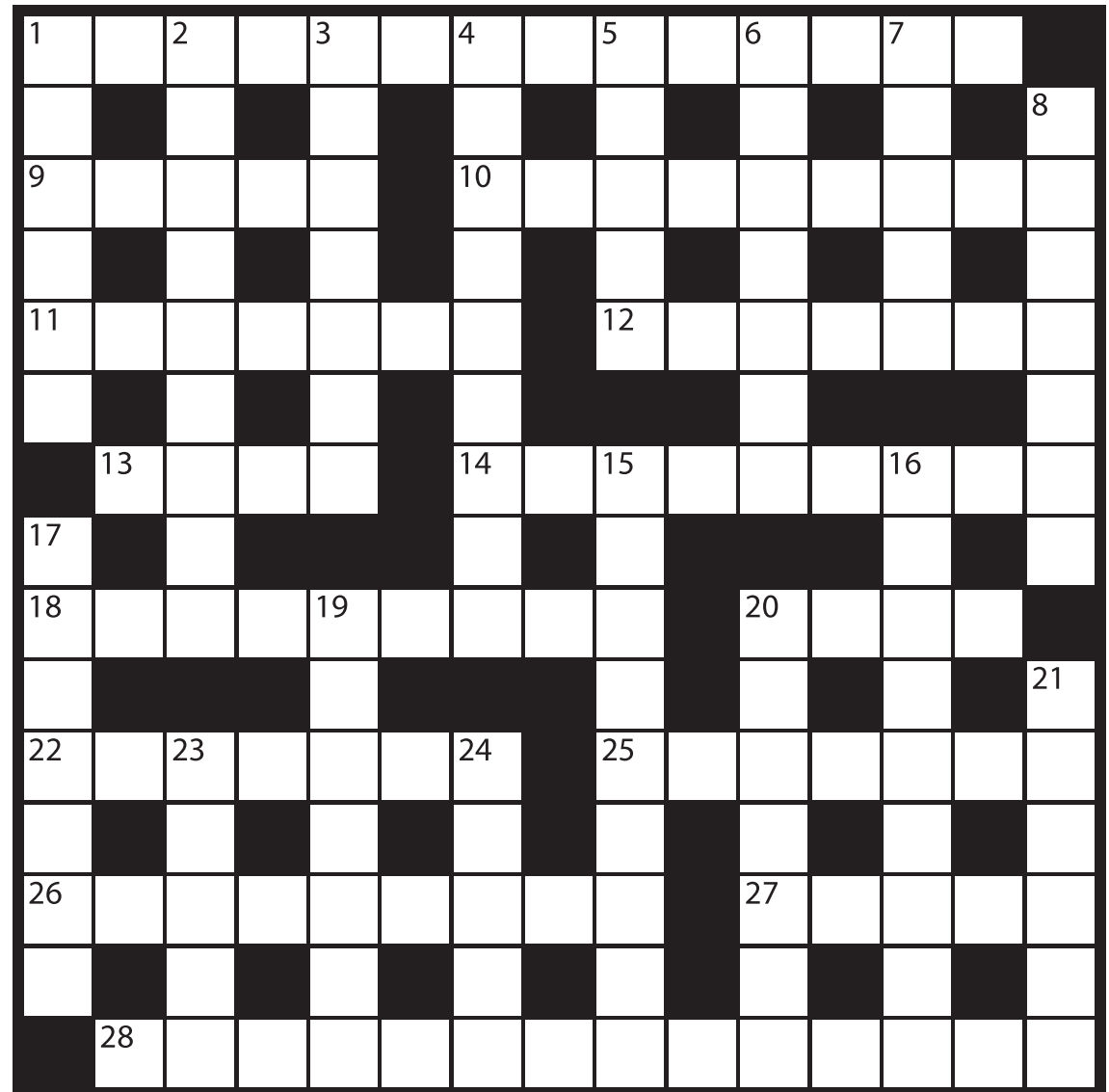
- 1 Sadly, rocks delay colonists (14)
 9 Bird finding silver inside wriggling eel (5)
 10 Detest disturbing me in a boat (9)
 11 Part of wasp in a chopped vegetable (7)
 12 Saw how a Dalmatian appears? (7)
 13 In the fog Leonard gave an amorous glance (4)
 14 Starting a meal with food short distance to drink (7,2)
 18 Dangerous slip experienced by very popular candidate (9)
 20 Wean off in a different way (4)
 22 Got hold of broken red cues (7)
 25 Couple about right, that is plain (7)
 26 Nearly entering plain during hours of darkness (9)
 27 Meadow flower round mouth of a bullock? (5)
 28 A re-entry plan, it fails between Earth and Mars, perhaps (14)

DOWN

- 1 Elegant character in dry surroundings (6)
 2 Inn's going wrong by joining the club (7,2)
 3 Work in the theatre? (7)
 4 Past eight? Prepare some Italian food (9)
 5 Animals seen in gladioli on stage (5)
 6 Fall over on spilt oil in city (7)
 7 Jumped into blue carpet regularly (5)
 8 Telephone about object splitting (7)
 15 Paler coat wrapped round ancient queen (9)
 16 Fighter sounds a beast (9)
 17 Mass of flowers develop well (7)

Saturday, 11th December, 2021

No. 15,779



- 19 Unusual way to approach the mountains (7)
 20 A bachelor gets a single sea creature (7)
 21 River to work steadily and intensely (6)
 23 Cold, thin and spotless (5)
 24 Produce reluctantly at end of excavation (3,2)