

ACROSS

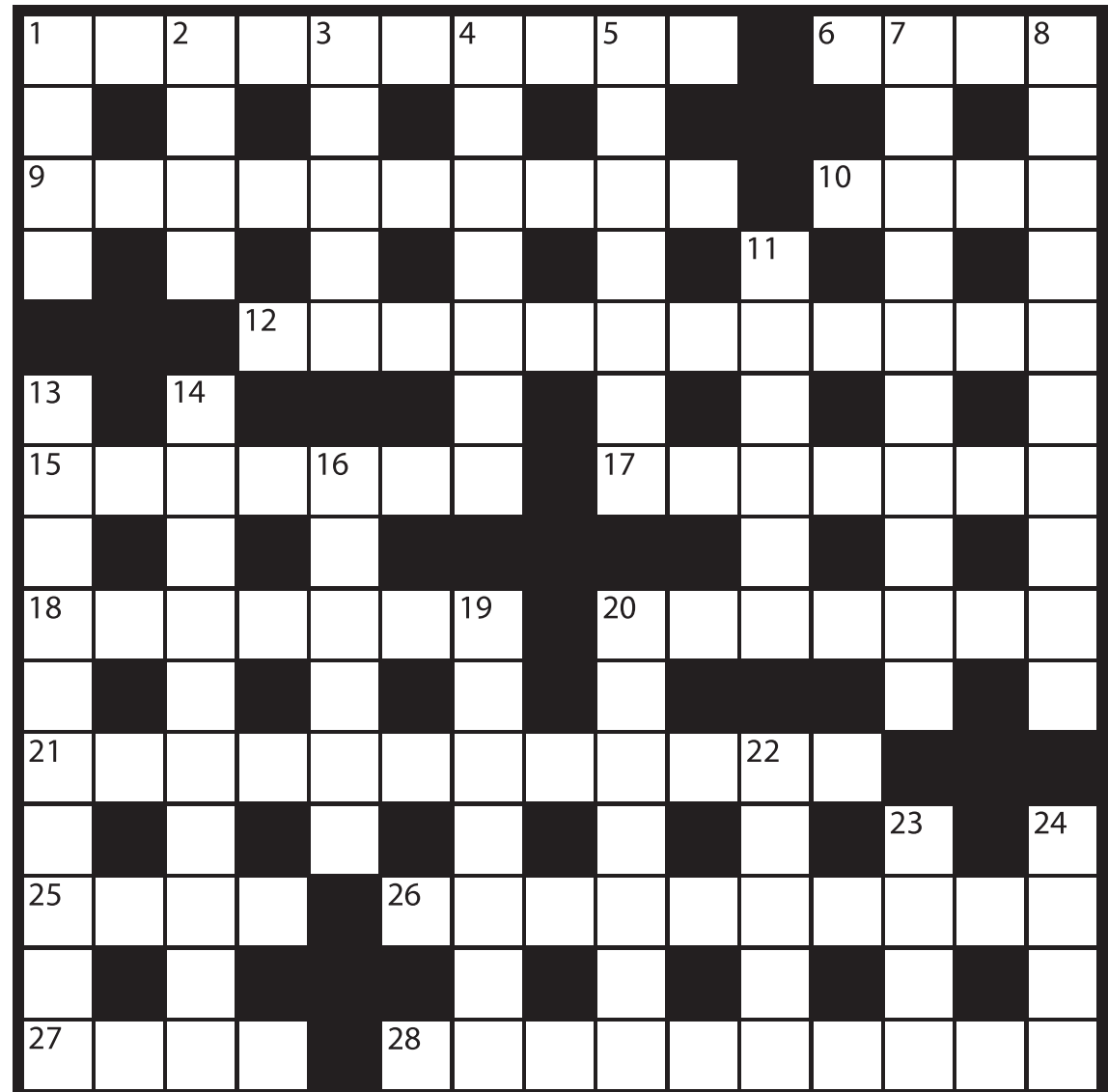
- 1 Aspect of serve that's unreturnable at close quarters (4-2-4)
 6 Tow old copper with scrap of cloth (4)
 9 Change open assembly in capital city (10)
 10 Hose or other foot covering (4)
 12 Disruption to affect tram is a certainty (6,2,4)
 15 It cuts a boat (7)
 17 Continue stubbornly when person's in trouble (5,2)
 18 Kiss allowed after giving jewellery (7)
 20 Number making racket during spoken exam (7)
 21 Amazingly oily muscular treatment (12)
 25 Cover for company at last (4)
 26 Belle acted in a way that was delightful (10)
 27 A let out when overdue (4)
 28 Attorney is ordering pens and pencils (10)

DOWN

- 1 Raising of 101 meeting points (4)
 2 Hat with eastern cloak (4)
 3 Friendly Islands featured in *Preston Gazette* (5)
 4 Overpraise what is comparatively dull (7)
 5 Tidy a mess king found in drinking vessel (5,2)
 7 He's angrier about practising (10)
 8 Cruel agent turns out to be elderly relative (5-5)
 11 A meadow at a distance (6)
 13 Careful with money, providing one comical turn (10)
 14 Rant about daughter after dance lacks harmony (10)

Friday, 25th February, 2022

No. 15,855



- 16 Set round a royal building (6)
 19 Everyone enters exam – most lofty! (7)
 20 Nothing to turn up before period of fasting – that's rich! (7)
 22 Large amount to make numbers game (5)
 23 Nothing in honours list title, blow it! (4)
 24 Do not admit from the garden yet (4)