

**ACROSS**

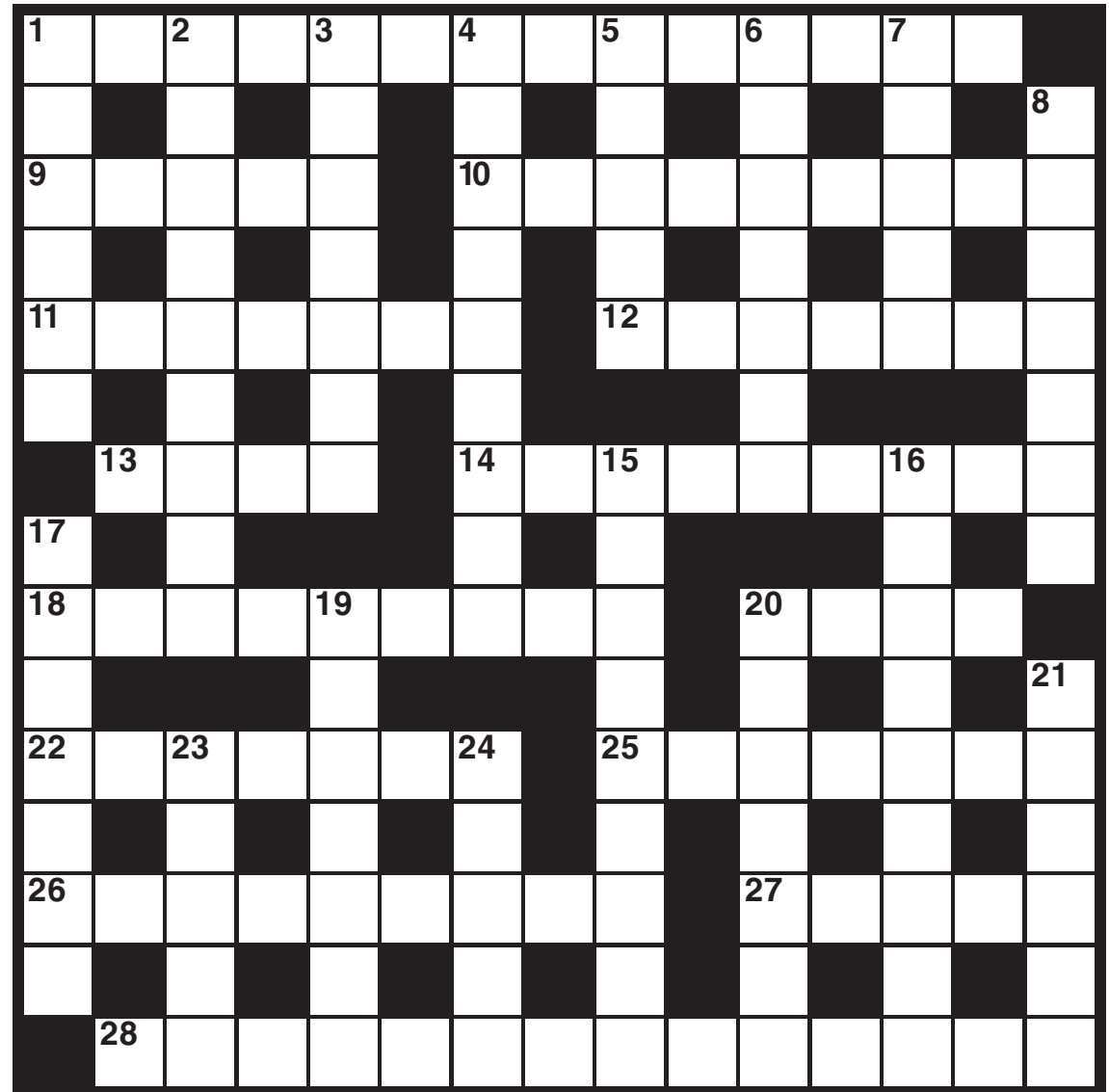
- 1 Stir fry ingredient, or hot summer soy concoction (6,8)
- 9 Funny company with rodents, almost (5)
- 10 Stupidly stops near interchange (9)
- 11 Once-over to observe twice (4-3)
- 12 Female entitled to succeed (7)
- 13 Newly made liquor (4)
- 14 Personal choice to a smaller extent is vulgar (9)
- 18 Not a quality required in the communications industry? (9)
- 20 Sprite gets knocked about during ice-hockey game (4)
- 22 Accompanies Ford models (7)
- 25 Get rid of nasty boils in a hospital (7)
- 26 Let tired temp off (9)
- 27 Cut back manuscript for tests (5)
- 28 Imagine garland on roller for masquerade (5-5,4)

**DOWN**

- 1 Mysterious stuff starts to obsess city clerk until leaving town (6)
- 2 Drowsy drunkard eats crushed melon – nice starter! (9)
- 3 Cut out tax dodge initially (7)
- 4 Article in a Monet composition is tatty (4-5)
- 5 Band receives millions for a big hit (5)
- 6 Priest off to the Orient for a break (7)
- 7 Gas round the area (5)
- 8 Despite objections continue putting broken spire on street (7)
- 15 King and journalist in seat run away (9)
- 16 Mexican dish left in tumbledown hacienda (9)

Saturday, 18th June, 2022

No. 15,968



- 17 MP Peter turned to thwart plan (3-4)
- 19 After jack, perhaps, I cut ace of hearts (7)
- 20 Birds making quiet Romeos (7)
- 21 Tool in church lies broken (6)
- 23 Get about in ancient Rome? (5)
- 24 Completely full up from unusual dates (5)