

## ACROSS

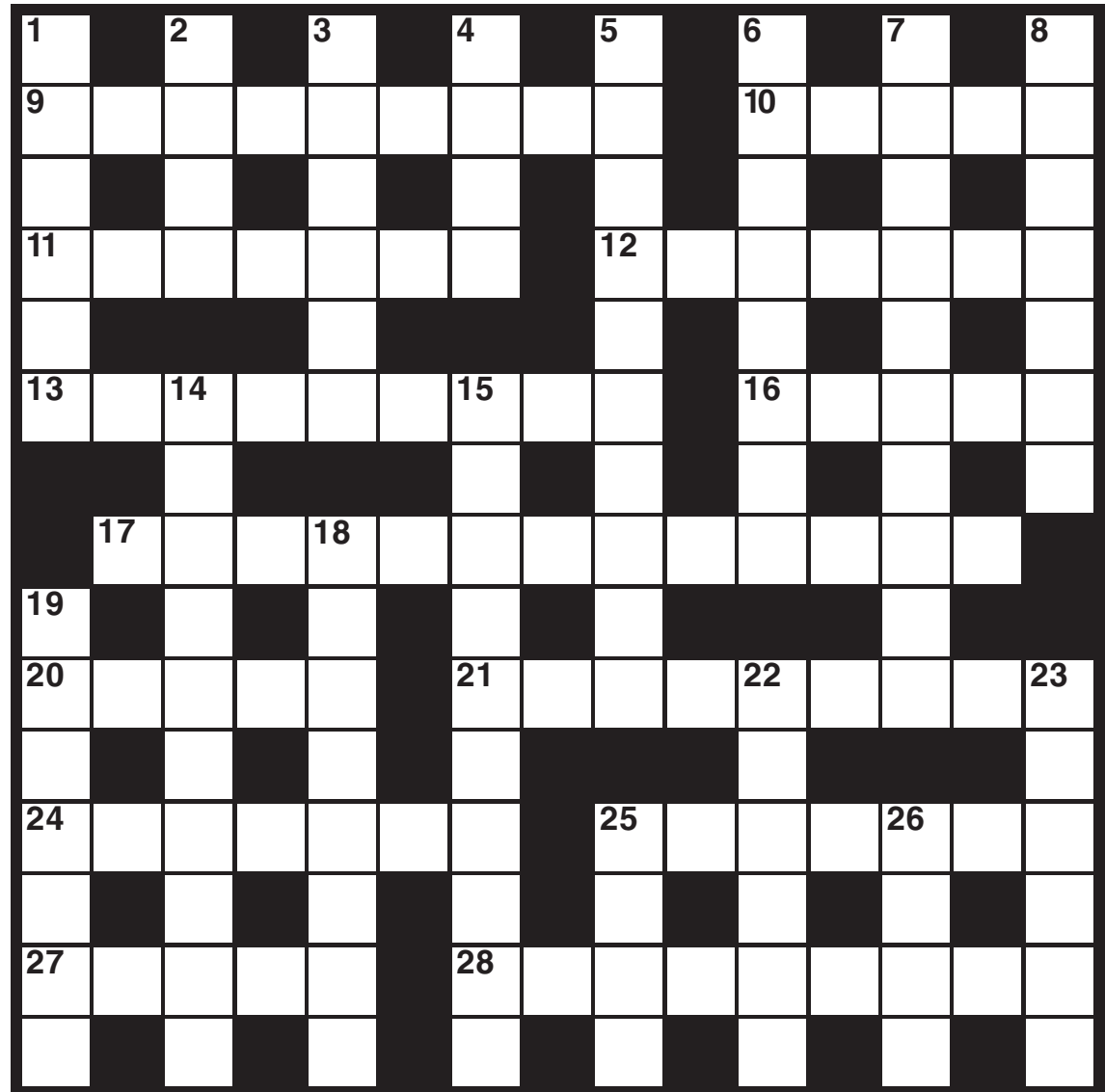
- 9 Chart easing of tension as girl returns (6,3)
- 10 Scottish alleyway nearby (5)
- 11 50% served with notes of debt – it's grave (7)
- 12 Overall leader rues mop confusion (7)
- 13 Turbulent river rose, creating an artificial lake (9)
- 16 Abandon holiday (5)
- 17 Deeply mourned about having too little work (13)
- 20 Atmospheric layer, Australian one (5)
- 21 Fraction of white tent erected (9)
- 24 Leave resort, about to see red (2,5)
- 25 To declare before time is mean (7)
- 27 Actor's whispered remark from a team (5)
- 28 Subcontract with courteous style (9)

## DOWN

- 1 After its use the written word is lost (6)
- 2 Slight raise in orders lacking energy (4)
- 3 I'm more upset by biography (6)
- 4 In May, people seek leaders as sprites (4)
- 5 Sign of omission perhaps, too tricky (10)
- 6 Bill and Paul moved company to coastal city (8)
- 7 Make sticks go into river islands (10)
- 8 Keen supporter voted out on two points (7)
- 14 Options when in water, to cope or not? (4,2,4)
- 15 Where a circus flag is excessive (4,3,3)
- 18 Raised more than half the team before date changed (8)

Wednesday, 22nd March, 2023

No. 16,245



- 19 Set large eel? Almost, not quite all (7)
- 22 In theatre, morbid ground movement (6)
- 23 Took notice of man with awful deed (6)
- 25 Social worker one is opposed to (4)
- 26 Couples head off with affected manner (4)