ACROSS

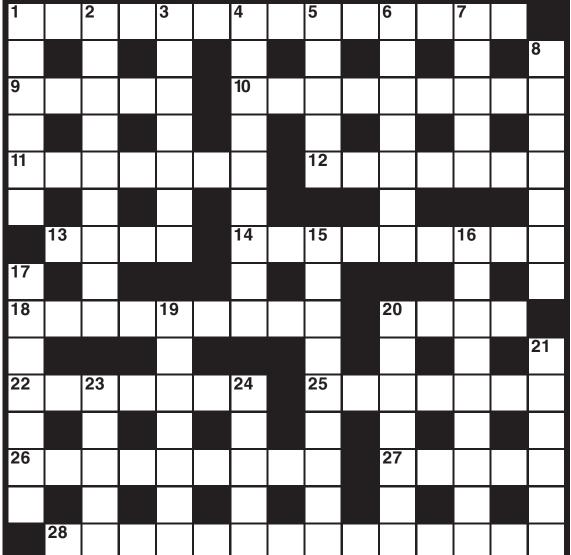
- **1** Secret local mess after hearing couple neck-and-neck (3,5,2,4)
- **9** Some whip-round idiot opened (5)
- **10** Restored confidence, while certain to be in the red (9)
- **11** Family member loses head with euphoria (7)
- **12** Circus bar causing snare at leisure, it's said (7)
- 13 Some cyst? Yes, it's a swelling (4)
- **14** Cut of steak is dish served when out of bed (9)
- **18** Risky hero travels Dales region (9)
- 20 A section of traffic, it yielded in town (4)
- 22 Nero, perhaps, turns salesman in Rome (7)
- **25** Part-exchange of French coach is outside (5-2)
- **26** Tending to hang on to teenier TV when repaired (9)
- 27 Name a consumer said (5)
- 28 To Winston, here's somehow significance (14)

DOWN

- 1 Start our errantry in this car (6)
- 2 Leonardo, eg, mixes red, almost (3,6)
- **3** Technophobe did damage inside instrument (7)
- 4 Green site relocated in Africa, it's plain (9)
- 5 Drink to a saint (5)
- 6 Downfall of rotter in legal action (7)
- **7** Big, but somewhat regular gemstones (5)
- 8 Stuck with zany redhead (7)
- **15** Way of dealing with medical care? (9)
- **16** Either son could be going up (2,3,4)
- 17 From memory, where the lungs are (2,5)

Saturday, 27th January, 2024





- **19** Saint called fourth-rate weird! (7)
- **20** Bread man early in the morning? (7)
- 21 Relatives at home with rules (2-4)
- 23 A top spinning round one in courtyard (5)
- 24 Animal with one horn relocated (5)