

ACROSS

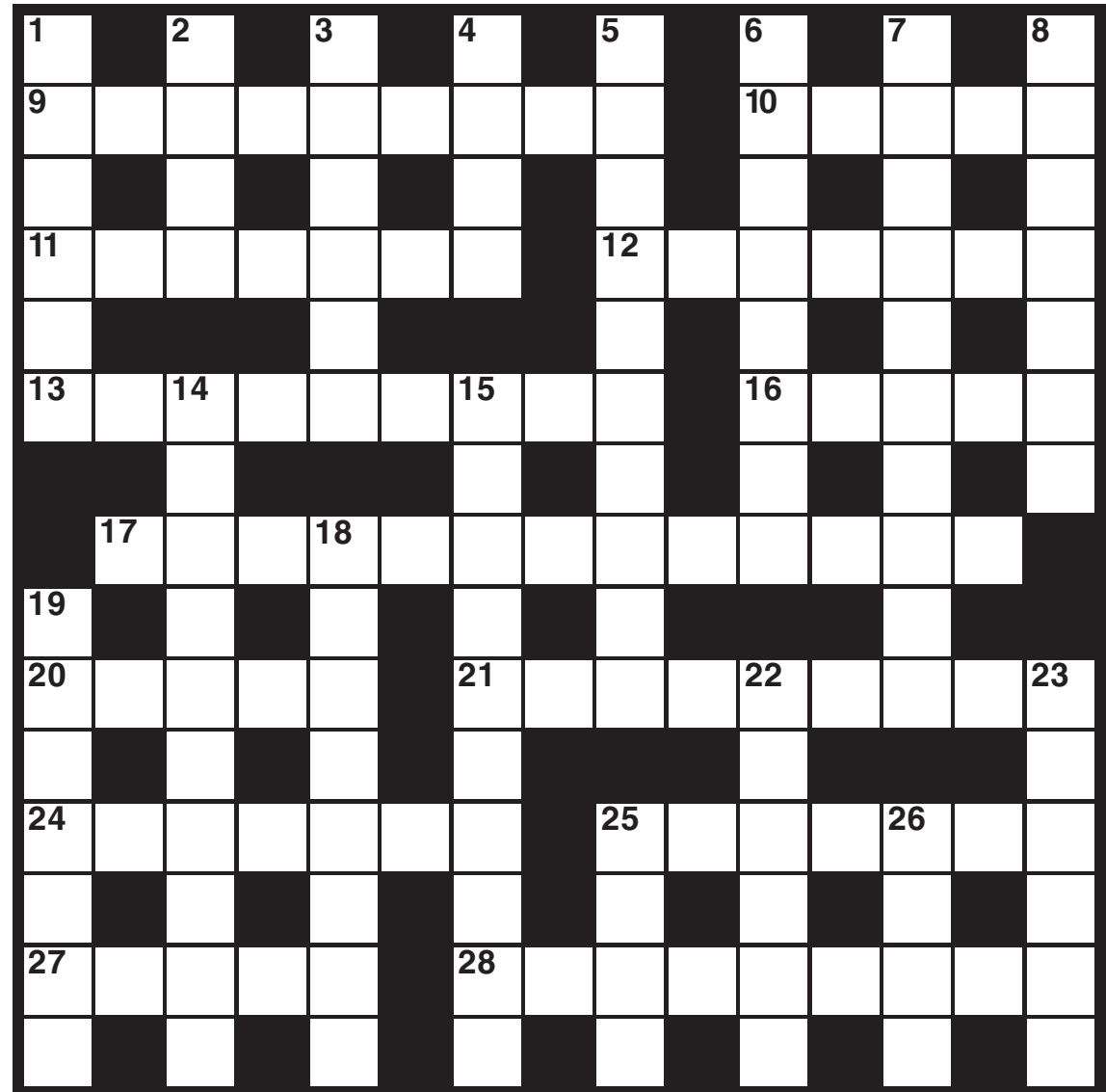
- 9 Make too much of being in charge of the nation (9)
 10 Take delight in once posh officer (5)
 11 Plant retailer to flirt so wildly (7)
 12 Suggest writing about operation (7)
 13 Dissident article he transcribed (9)
 16 Almost submerged by a thin layer (5)
 17 Diverse article he read relieved tension (7,3,3)
 20 Dress fussily very quietly over the edge (5)
 21 Outsider has almost nothing on arm (3-6)
 24 Do as dog and bird (7)
 25 Individually, felons arranged to harbour fugitive at last (7)
 27 Feature one trapped sound (5)
 28 Attempts to withhold old, sad stories (9)

DOWN

- 1 Exclamation after fool turns up for sponge (6)
 2 Changed mode of protest (4)
 3 Awful thirst for informal garment (1-5)
 4 Pitch – or players (4)
 5 Tide turning, no tail for Italian (10)
 6 Echo stereo broadcast around North America (8)
 7 Isolated away from the trunk? (3,2,1,4)
 8 The curt upheaval here in the Netherlands (7)
 14 Bread in gin Penny swallowed, given kitchen utensil (7,3)
 15 A fresh start on the blackboard? (5,5)
 18 They're all characters! (8)

Wednesday, 14th February, 2024

No. 16,574



- 19 Increases side improvement (7)
 22 Small hole I reportedly rented out (6)
 23 Rubbish to say no (6)
 25 Shape of eggs before laying begins (4)
 26 Time's up to give out (4)