

ACROSS

- 7 Sturgeon eggs (6)
 8 Not second-hand (6)
 9 Edge slowly forward (4)
 10 Football match official (3)
 11 Capital city of Ukraine (4)
 12 Ruler who uses power arbitrarily (6)
 14 Period of ten years (6)
 16 Carve in relief (6)
 19 High-priced (6)
 21 Jon ____, Channel 4 newsman (4)
 23 Glossy fabric for boots and macs (inits) (3)
 24 Cold and musty (4)
 25 Person who puts the ball in the net (6)
 26 Excavating machine (6)

DOWN

- 1 High-spirited and carefree (6)
 2 Inner skin of an orange (4)
 3 Reputed final resting place of Noah's Ark (6)
 4 Slapped lightly (6)
 5 Worthless outer covering (4)
 6 Ancient tale (6)
 13 Since (3)
 15 Crunchy lettuce (3)
 17 Threat, danger (6)
 18 Breathtaking (6)
 19 Insect that makes a loud chirping sound (6)
 20 Person or institution which advances funds (6)
 22 Conflicts (4)
 24 Barking animals (4)

