

## ACROSS

- 1 Strive against (6)
- 4 Small insect with pincers (6)
- 9 Sinewy (7)
- 10 Member of a wandering tribe (5)
- 11 Adolescent (4)
- 12 Deficiency (7)
- 14 Hired assassin (6)
- 16 Edible shellfish (6)
- 19 Sandshoe (7)
- 21 Assert (4)
- 23 Rebuff, slight (5)
- 24 Short minor fight (7)
- 25 Organised around a central idea (6)
- 26 Glowing with heat (3-3)

## DOWN

- 1 17th-century collar (4)
- 2 Topic (7)
- 3 Bound by oath (5)
- 5 Governmental pardon (7)
- 6 Adult female (5)
- 7 Gizmos (8)
- 8 Literary composition (5)
- 13 Black-and-white board plus pieces (5,3)
- 15 Obliquely (7)
- 17 \_\_\_ Night, end of Christmas (7)
- 18 Original (5)
- 20 Secrete (5)
- 21 Keen, sharp (5)
- 22 Saucy, forward (4)

