

**ACROSS**

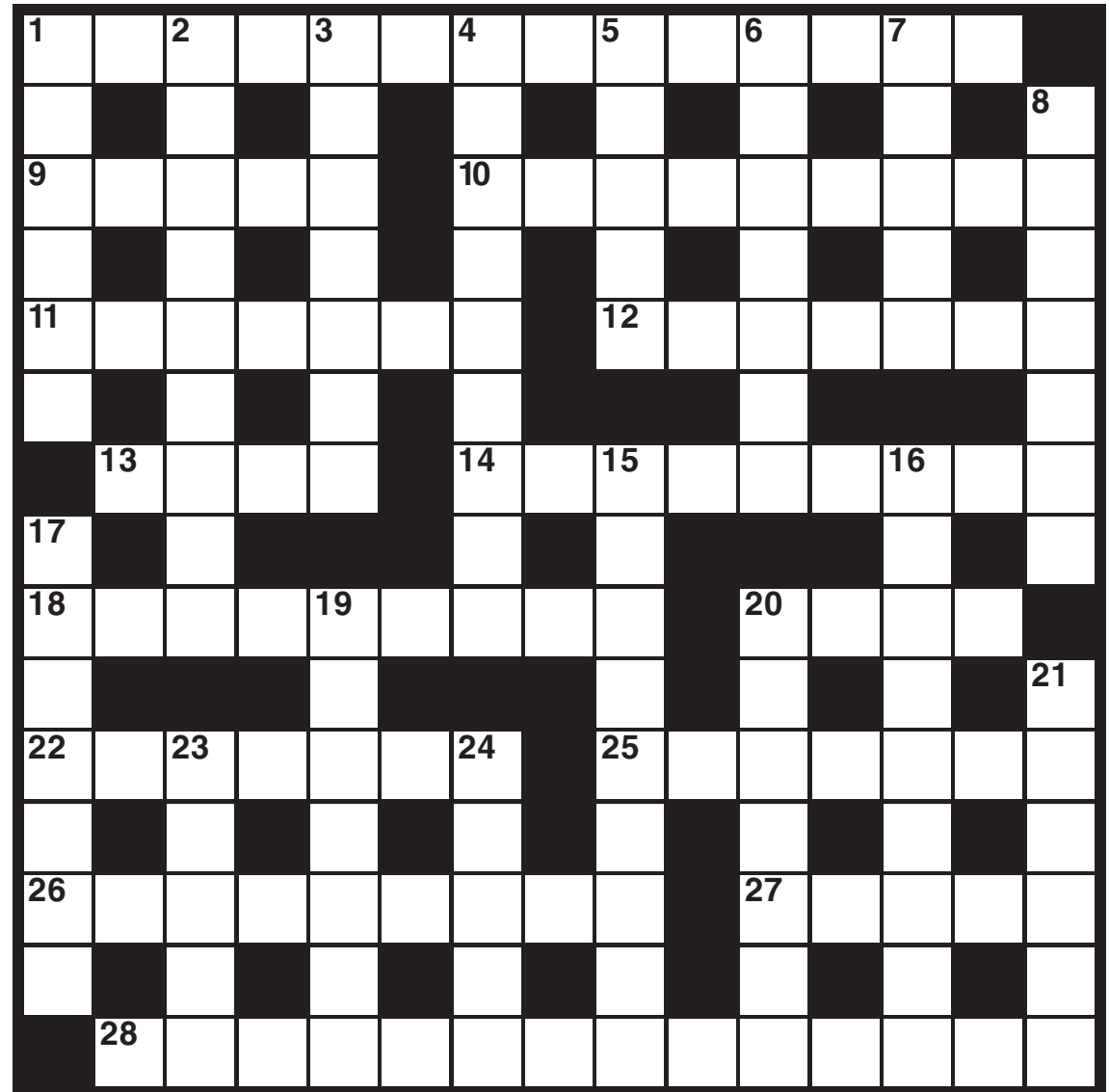
- 1 Medication to cure tenant's despair (14)
- 9 Some yarn about airborne flock (5)
- 10 Can first batsman use this in the kitchen? (3-6)
- 11 Sentimental crush around week one (7)
- 12 Lethargy at home, then terribly irate (7)
- 13 Resentment seen in diplomat dropping round (4)
- 14 Put ethane compound to raise your stake (2,3,4)
- 18 Outlaw paid by writer (9)
- 20 Curtailed vision causes sound of disappointment (4)
- 22 Current change of second letter is normal (7)
- 25 Small talk creating splash (7)
- 26 Actor is in topper for Merchant-Ivory costume drama! (9)
- 27 Friend Edward lost colour (5)
- 28 Where monks meet to celebrate forty again (9,5)

**DOWN**

- 1 Take for granted Sue and Sam are involved (6)
- 2 Take down amendments to old martial art (9)
- 3 Deny it's displaying a degree of thickness (7)
- 4 Scented oil makes father and Lou itch madly (9)
- 5 Boredom that's rising, taking hold of troubled nun (5)
- 6 Chief, first to size up Royal Engineers with me (7)
- 7 Nobody on time for musical work (5)
- 8 Devised thanks for backing in doctrine (7)
- 15 One cherishing committee job? (9)
- 16 Establishment where you might find a weapon after dark? (9)
- 17 Gravely written inscription! (7)

Saturday, 4th May, 2024

No. 16,654



- 19 Functioning in series of bad weather (7)
- 20 Don't move as putty moves (4,3)
- 21 Freezing at first on hilltop – now cooler (6)
- 23 To follow without uniform, move your lips (5)
- 24 I'm passing through illuminated border (5)