

ACROSS

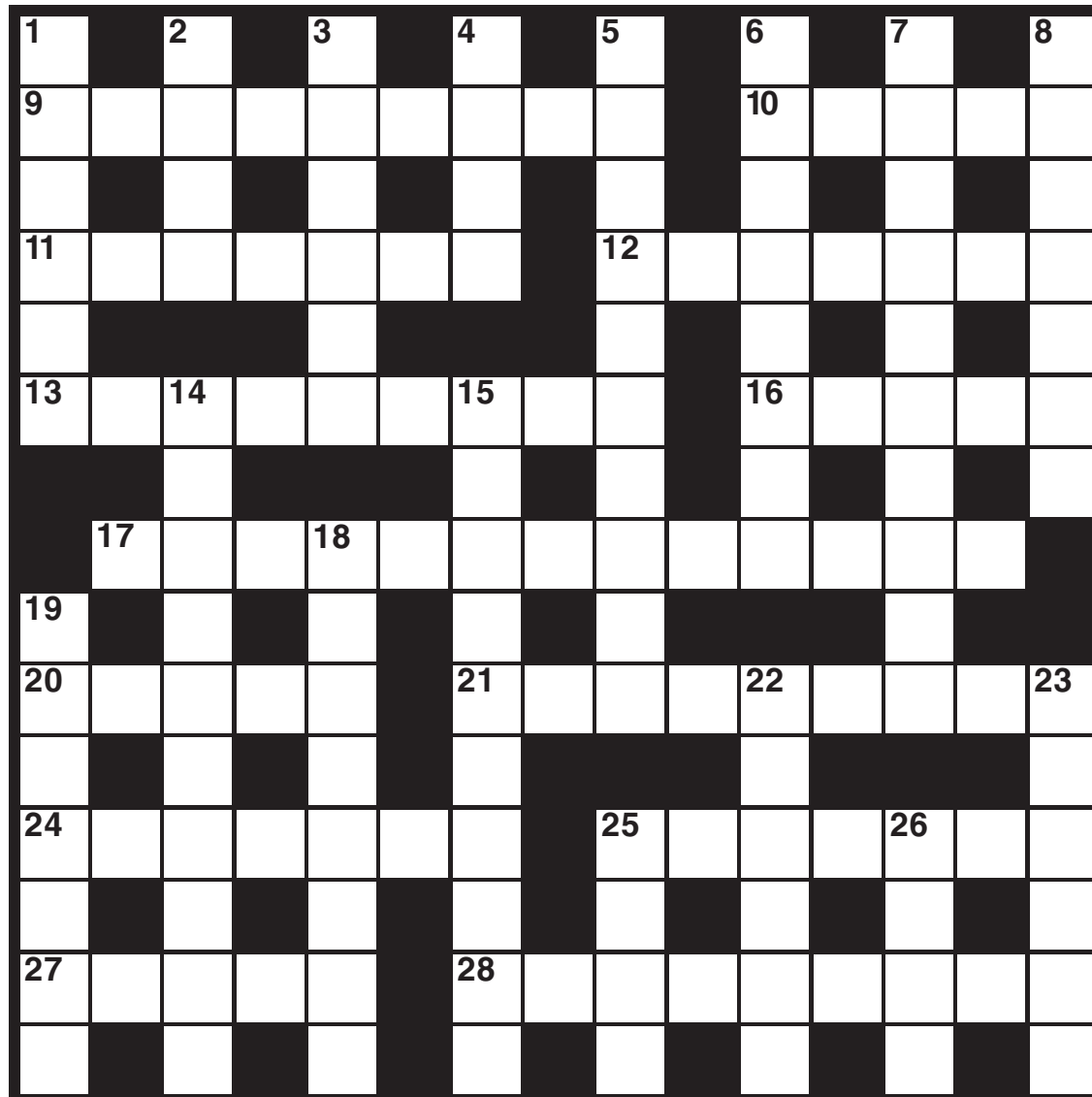
- 9 One treading the boards, treading a different way (9)
 10 Expectation holds back copyright for some time (5)
 11 Fundamentally, a nasty threat (2,5)
 12 Relative on a river that's murky (7)
 13 Leap to ask earnestly about the church (9)
 16 Rebellious cadet played a part (5)
 17 In charge of contest at ongoing fight (7,6)
 20 Dread variety of European snake (5)
 21 Firm dates arranged quickly (9)
 24 Pirate orcs scatter before broadcast (7)
 25 Loud, dishonest amusement park (7)
 27 Seeing that section of dress in cerise (5)
 28 School returns reserves of stationery items (9)

DOWN

- 1 A kidder becoming relaxed (2,4)
 2 Waistband from small tree (4)
 3 Discuss with creature in river (6)
 4 Raise elevator (4)
 5 Powerless to hold some cards out of place (10)
 6 Liking piano, fill with wonder (8)
 7 Turning L-plate into shrub (10)
 8 Race had degenerated into farce (7)
 14 Booming at a lower level inside object (10)
 15 Floor movement for which worker needs elasticity (10)
 18 Ran up, estimated, and gave an account (8)

Wednesday, 15th May, 2024

No. 16,665



- 19 Scorn of ruler, rift is audible (7)
 22 River going round a u-bend (6)
 23 Most of the reed used by nest-builder (6)
 25 Odd fate of dairy product (4)
 26 Missing a sad return (inits) (4)