

ACROSS

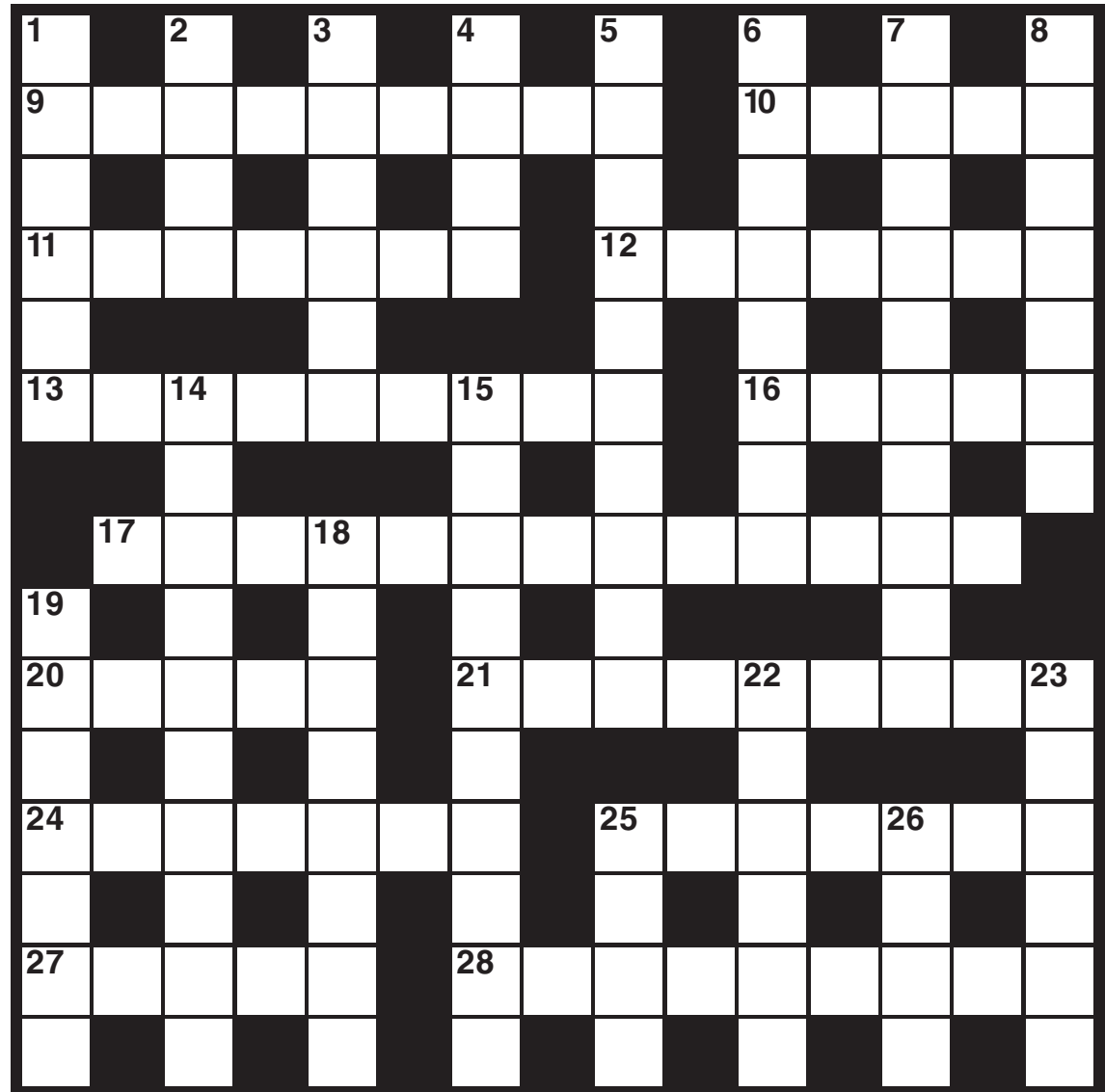
- 9 Frost grasped by boy at border (9)
 10 Jumping bail, I must make an excuse (5)
 11 Get involved with ten distributing chianti, say (7)
 12 Abandons the trenches (7)
 13 Loses one's composition – careless behaviour (9)
 16 Italian villa houses forging equipment (5)
 17 Seat of Turkish power? (7,6)
 20 Enter at speed for an argument (3,2)
 21 Unwelcome guests more impolite covered in crawling nits (9)
 24 Diane left girl with a difficult choice (7)
 25 Jersey climate less hot after first of September (7)
 27 Copper has little time for food flavouring (5)
 28 Copies volatile friend of the bishops (9)

DOWN

- 1 Egghead in shock makes urgent request (6)
 2 Brisk pace when raising legal wrong (4)
 3 Limb, I believe, holding drink (6)
 4 Small yet troublesome inflammation (4)
 5 Gleaming flower cut on slope (10)
 6 For final hope, shoemaker's equipment needs fuel – drop of petrol (4,4)
 7 Poetry of Burns, perhaps (5,5)
 8 Bloke translating Flemish (7)
 14 Isolated away from the trunk? (3,2,1,4)
 15 Got rid of haphazardly at a decider (10)
 18 Decorate with ten Roman pieces (8)

Wednesday, 12th June, 2024

No. 16,693



- 19 Public relations having order for forecast (7)
 22 International body involved in inopportune scoop (inits) (6)
 23 Quiet little stream? Quite the reverse (6)
 25 Quickly read small Kipling novel (4)
 26 Dumps the gratuities (4)