ACROSS

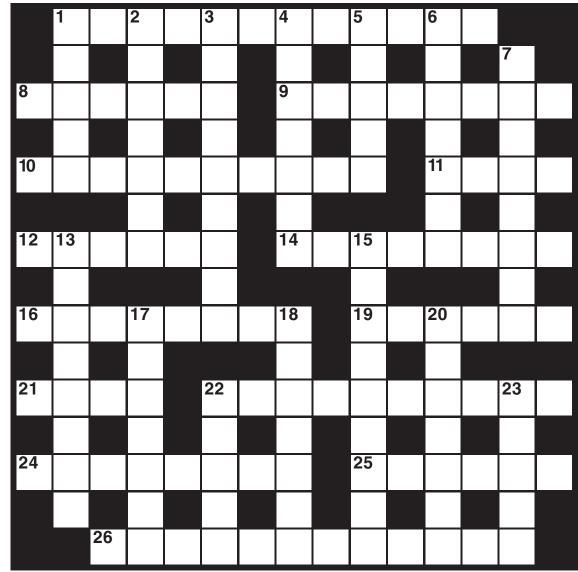
- 1 Loving to make taffeta on ice! (12)
- 8 Extreme fear when leaders of Hungary and Oman by mistake decapitated (6)
- **9** The way in which you'll have to reverse (3-2-3)
- **10** New measure brings the tavern cheer (10)
- 11 Some uncouth, ugly and violent criminal (4)
- 12 Hard to keep in step, seeing cord (6)
- 14 Speed up former exercises before tide turns (8)
- **16** Nurse, I've broken everything (8)
- 19 First coat of paint is best quality, right? (6)
- 21 Fit for a source of water (4)
- 22 Star is paid to remove house plant (10)
- 24 Mother to think about spicy ball (8)
- 25 Archdeacon in diocese in a fair way (6)
- 26 Over-emotional actor, dilemma possibly (12)

DOWN

- **1** A painful thing which becomes an oak? (5)
- 2 Conifer's outcome? (3,4)
- 3 I can order spicy flavouring (9)
- 4 Tend to upward slope (7)
- **5** Some funny, long stocking material (5)
- **6** Gave medical help for nothing? (7)
- 7 The French stick to small container, say (8)
- **13** Parasite on the Tube? (6-2)
- **15** Unfulfilled fancy of the sleeping smoker? (4,5)

Thursday, 20th June, 2024

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- **17** Convict taken in by horrible rural community (7)
- **18** Salesman in Rome returned for a sovereign (7)
- 20 Examine crawler with soft inside (7)
- 22 German car ring regarding sound (5)
- 23 What's left covered by inshore licence (5)