

ACROSS

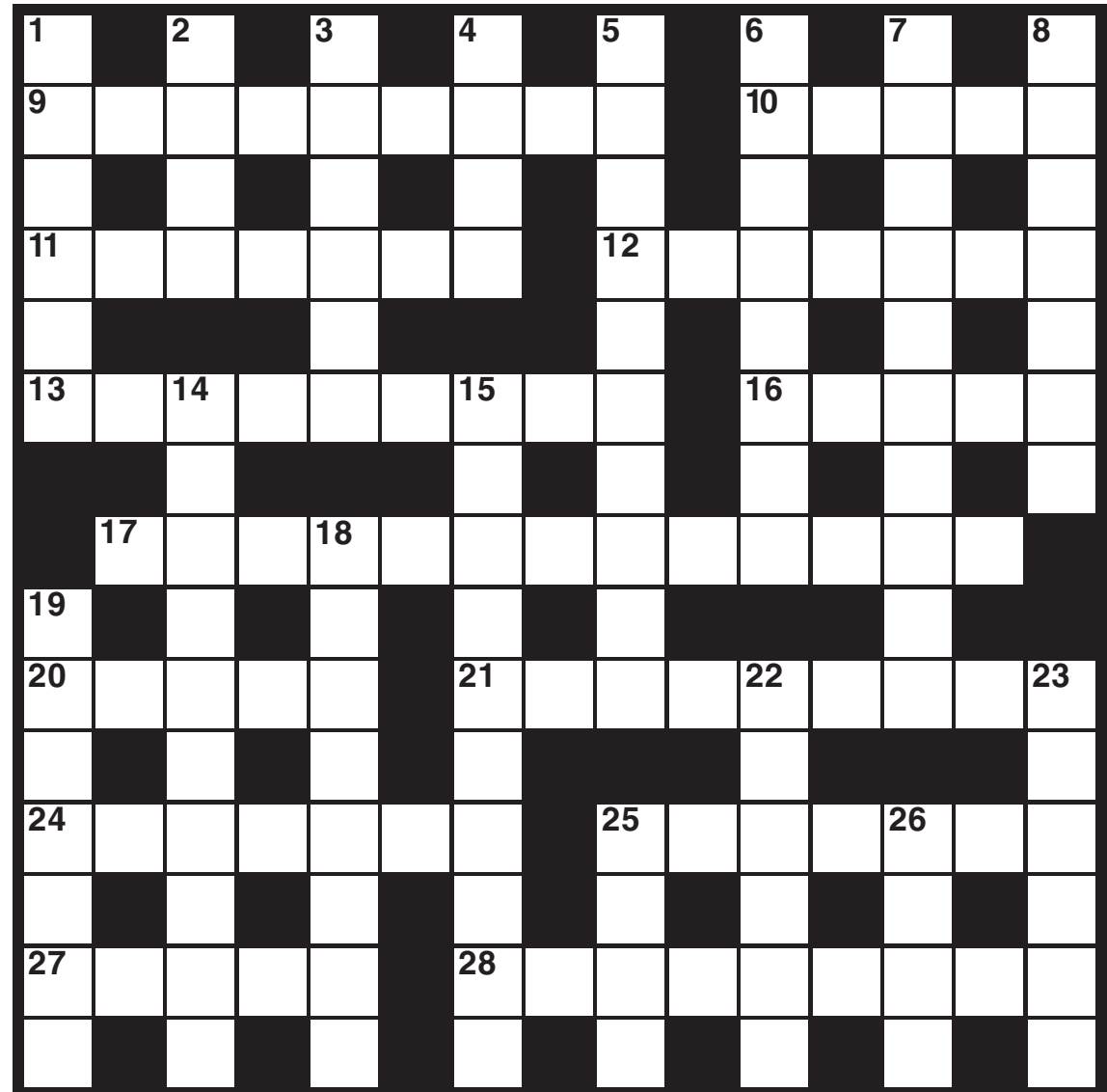
- 9 Silly person, durable but reckless (9)
 10 In front of king, regularly inclined to be less friendly (5)
 11 State belt has been shortened in song (7)
 12 South Pacific islands seen from a canoe I upset (7)
 13 In the past one would assess and free from blame (9)
 16 Shock a quiet friend (5)
 17 Ultimate ban on wrecking distant peak (5,8)
 20 Near time – darkness (5)
 21 Garage dispenser is a musical weapon (6,3)
 24 I'm given money to confiscate (7)
 25 Low lens obscured and enlarged (7)
 27 Pleasant entertaining eastern relative (5)
 28 Finished push for high level of activity (9)

DOWN

- 1 Obliterate every feature initially on the front (6)
 2 Hat in Utopia (4)
 3 Said to be unseated from royal seat (6)
 4 Article about a region (4)
 5 New penthouse including unknown longest side? (10)
 6 Survival equipment for long term prisoner with a small foot (4,4)
 7 To tease while asleep is a crime (10)
 8 Wide field, we hear, in general (7)
 14 A green Opel handled with zest (6,4)
 15 Final conflict when dragon made off (10)
 18 Salad ingredients cut with steel, possibly (8)

Monday, 15th July, 2024

No. 16,726



- 19 Very old worker, terribly nice at heart (7)
 22 Timid, admitting weird, and poor (6)
 23 Determined relative goes back up to European city (6)
 25 Check the stalk (4)
 26 Den's beginning to like atmosphere (4)