

ACROSS

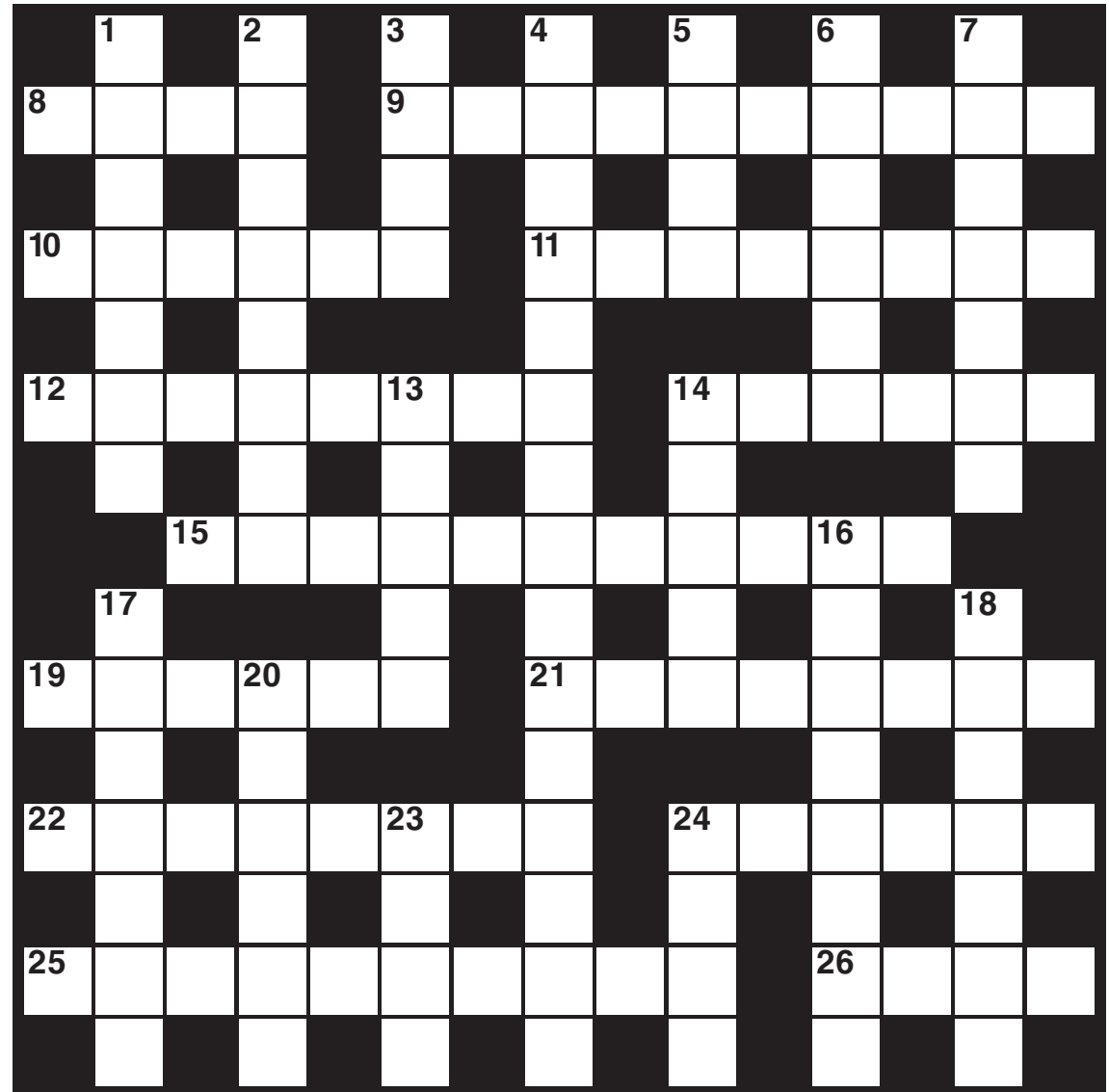
- 8 Dull boy? (4)
 9 Agree to write (10)
 10 I left, studied, rearranged and cleaned (6)
 11 Sport society number two? (4,4)
 12 Jack has a drink, one knocked back with pepper (8)
 14 Girl adopting a king's martial art (6)
 15 Hasty old man turned poet (5,6)
 19 Bachelor did some gardening, but slowed down (6)
 21 Container replacing a cistern (8)
 22 Underwear intended, it's said, to be worn by minister (8)
 24 Shapeless mass of toy before operation (6)
 25 Nick something? Stop that! (5,2,3)
 26 Group patriotically included (4)

DOWN

- 1 Warriors from Asia with rum getting drunk (7)
 2 A trusty with a hammer sculpted figures (8)
 3 Hornsea cider's somewhat sharp (4)
 4 Forecast that no patriotic song will get composed (15)
 5 Zookeeper expected all lions initially to have great enthusiasm (4)
 6 What separates room and river (6)
 7 Bathroom to come next, it's contained (2,5)
 13 Antelope from Eastern country (5)
 14 Ken North is famous (5)
 16 Unqualified sailor thus has instrument (8)

Saturday, 7th September, 2024

No. 16,780



- 17 European city of gold lists (7)
 18 Bloomer – a big one, unfortunately (7)
 20 Outfits next to church are vulgar (6)
 23 Make TV programme changes in red italics (4)
 24 Lawyer on foot, so foolish (4)