

**ACROSS**

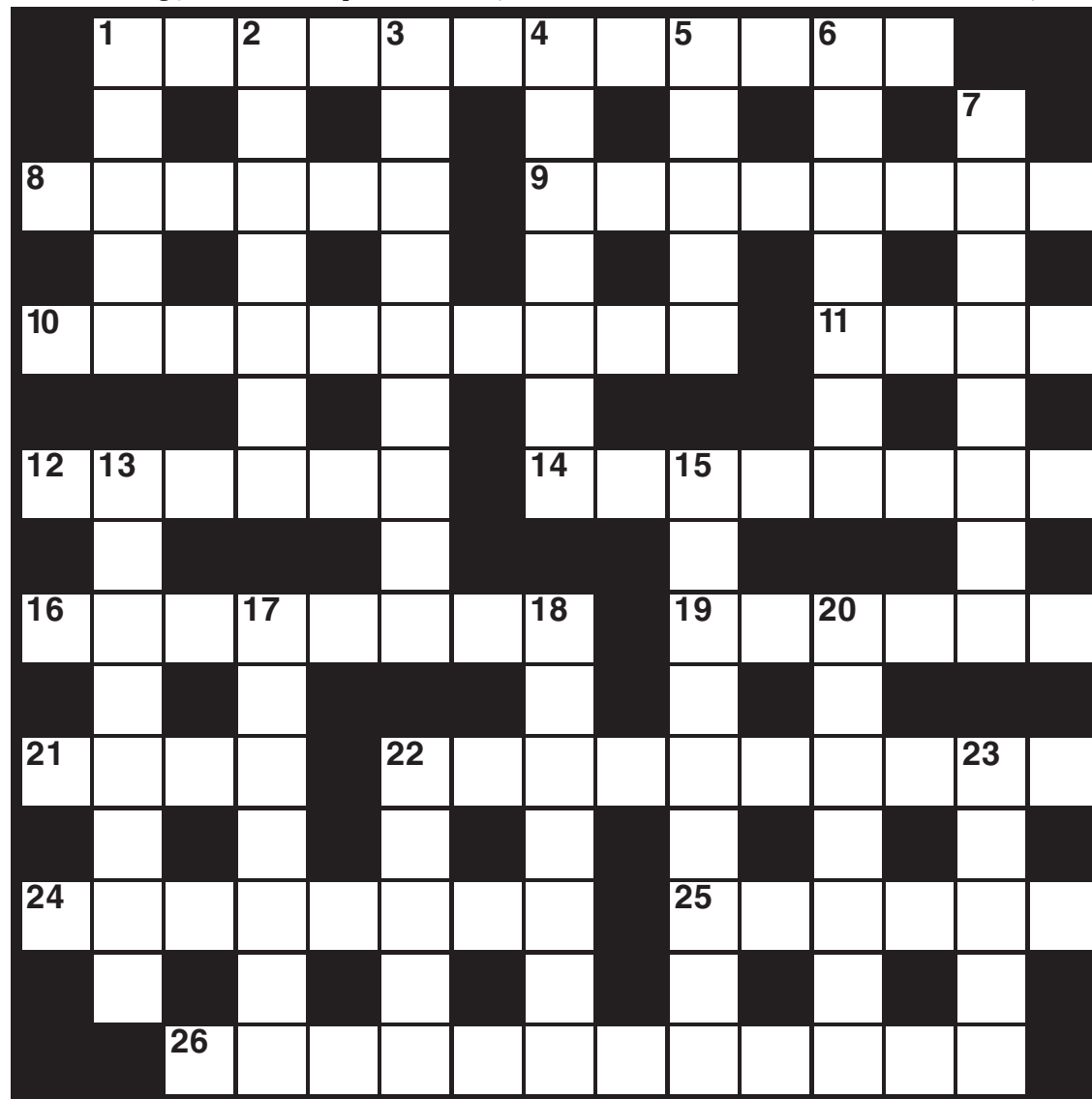
- 1 In which players play or box – hit it! (9,3)  
 8 Attempt to get some beef for tea (6)  
 9 Add nine to part of book (8)  
 10 Marketing giveaway releases more than enough (4,6)  
 11 Hotel court orders announced (4)  
 12 Lion starts tiring on the slope (6)  
 14 Carol follows regular church service (8)  
 16 Twice exclude Olympic finalists? That's cruel (8)  
 19 Never to tour round the East? It's superficial (6)  
 21 Southern family hide (4)  
 22 Abrasive but good gal joins journal (10)  
 24 Peace-lover – I interrupt if pacts collapse (8)  
 25 Drink upset unremarkable antelope (6)  
 26 There's no better place to play with singer's ability (7,5)

**DOWN**

- 1 Tender bid (5)  
 2 Disease spoiling her cola (7)  
 3 One-time vehicle for a dentist? (9)  
 4 Trudge along to riotous parties (7)  
 5 Unusually pale soft-centred fruit (5)  
 6 Takes no notice of wild regions (7)  
 7 Prime minister exchanged cane for tiny amount (8)  
 13 Place to eat a flapjack? (5,3)  
 15 Earwig wriggled over spade (9)

Saturday, 28th September, 2024

No. 16,801



- 17 No fibre destroyed in outdoor blaze (7)  
 18 In a muddle with tea about the ears (7)  
 20 It's most orderly to dine in the home (7)  
 22 Sorrow caused by key fire damage (5)  
 23 Record Scottish expression for a time (5)