ACROSS

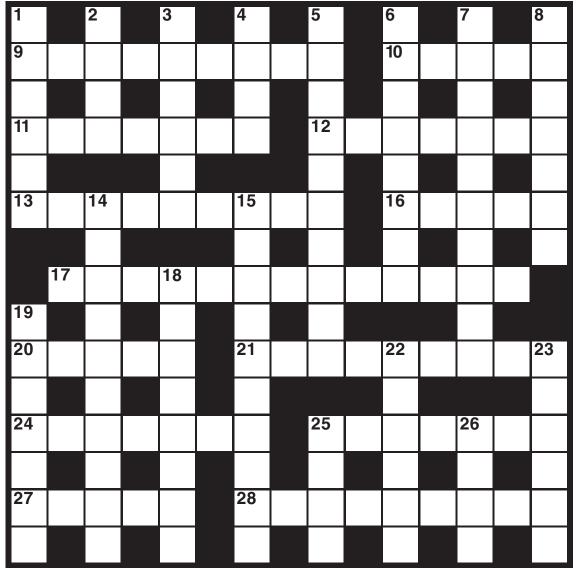
- 9 Placed ideally in conifer (9)
- 10 Quietly got up to make ordinary speech (5)
- **11** Told to avoid jewels in fairground ride (7)
- **12** Stagger around rook with pig's foot (7)
- 13 Old vessels I've to make spacious (9)
- 16 Effort by South Africa gets heard (5)
- **17** Some rip off country when taking off (13)
- 20 Poltergeist held back white bird (5)
- 21 Having one Geordie on planet is gloomy! (9)
- 24 Resin plastered around church honest (7)
- 25 Scruffy peacekeepers, with maiden, held out (7)
- **27** The Spanish took food to raise spirits (5)
- **28** Aware that tooth isn't an alternative (9)

DOWN

- 1 Snow vehicle with small ridge (6)
- **2** Ogled, I'd say (4)
- 3 A gnome to be designed? Challenge accepted! (4,2)
- 4 Contributes to noisy commercials (4)
- 5 Marry then make a bow? (3,3,4)
- 6 Person against ordering pen with no top (8)
- 7 Room in disarray holding girl educationalist (10)
- **8** Bert, say, unfortunately breaks faith (7)
- 14 Rope in a man to train dog (10)
- **15** One creating scene isn't making strong demand (10)
- 18 Way-out measures, once metres, converted (8)

Wednesday, 16th October, 2024

No. 16,819



- 19 More confused when series broadcast after first of May (7)
- 22 Quickly acquire from a lawn? (4,2)
- 23 Finally, people say it's a housing area (6)
- 25 Longing to head off expulsion (4)
- 26 Said to come across edible flesh (4)