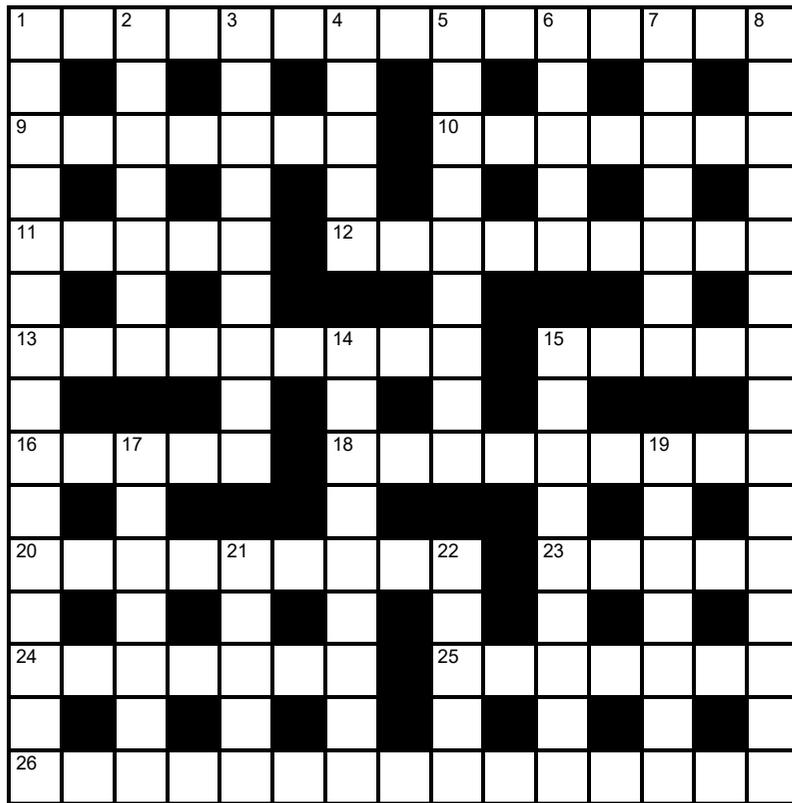


*Every clue contains a surplus word not needed to solve it. The initial letters of each surplus word, in clue order, spell out a question that solvers must answer.*



**Across**

- 1 Deputy who gives clue to resign (6,2,7)
- 9 Hairy hound has last of tandoori bread (7)
- 10 Agree to direct adult class (7)
- 11 Choose to hold the French trial in English court (5)
- 12 Get singer included incorrectly in *Hello?* (9)
- 13 Ignorance of neon sign research? (9)
- 15 American stuffs trimmed beef joint for traditional food (5)
- 16 Poet's running out of pornography in Greek hotel (5)
- 18 Complaint of East

**Down**

- German artists troubled about onset of indigestion (9)
- 20 Fool returning family pets in March (5,4)
- 23 Independent politician once in first-rate plea (5)
- 24 After finding attention deficit disorder stop athletic supplements (7)
- 25 Trade union removing a liberal in Congress (7)
- 26 CIA's nerve centre arranged hourly access (7,8)

**Down**

- 1 Arab Sheik's agents ran around to find treacherous person (5,2,3,5)
- 2 We hear Charlie rings birds (7)
- 3 Close shave from new razor person left out (4,5)
- 4 Some organ music in Germany may be chilling (5)
- 5 Dogs eat the Spanish sea birds (9)
- 6 Impressionist's working secretly to infiltrate London police (5)
- 7 Academy limits salary increases (7)
- 8 Study origins of

argument over Tory abandoning principles (8,7)

- 14 Terrible experience of headless man on large horse (9)
- 15 Underground with more lines, one barely running, leader of industry admitted (9)
- 17 Trappist description of monk is correct (2,5)
- 19 Feeling I'm not in education (7)
- 21 Boredom overwhelms nationals in European Union island (5)
- 22 Large tropical bird leaves Long Island nesting tree (5)