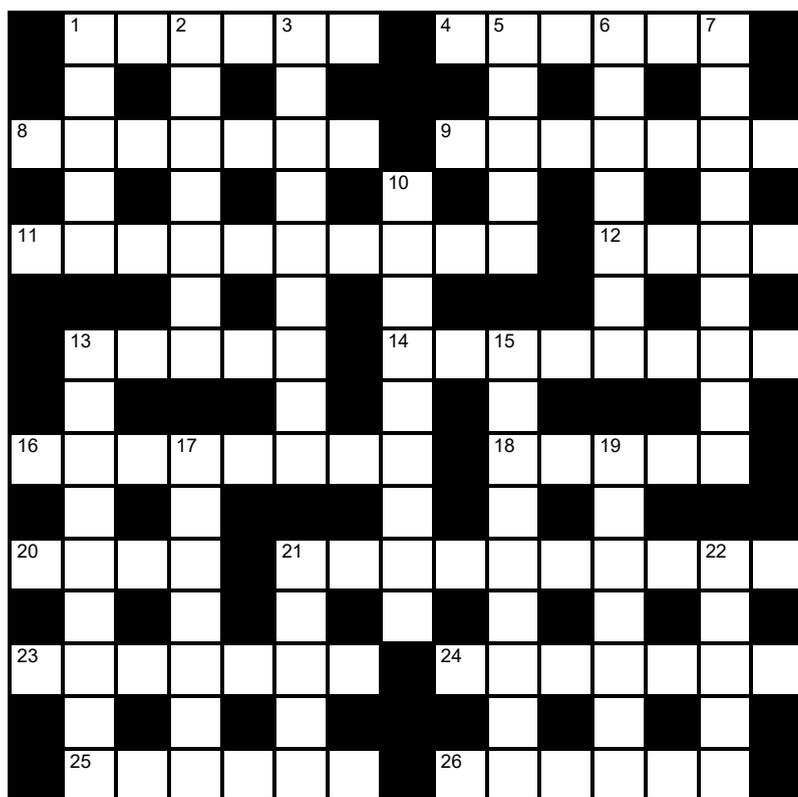


Out of Sync

Definitions are normal, but wordplay for a given solution is provided in the previous clue (in printed order). Wordplay for 1 across is found in 22 down.

**Across**

- 1 Scheduled flexibly (6)
- 4 Criticized in German, and therefore logically (6)
- 8 Suffer long period with drill not working (7)
- 9 Enduring wheezing, at first in gym instead of hospital (7)
- 11 Having poor focus, and so on, before start of holidays (10)
- 12 Self-starter, high-flier, makes score (4)
- 13 Cutters having end of gunnel inserted on back of boat (5)
- 14 Charity show getting pledges (8)
- 16 Mogul changing heart provides guarantees (8)
- 18 Originally, Russian ox ate ryegrass in ravine (5)
- 20 Occupier of bathroom heard making loud noise (4)
- 21 American officer from Virginia given dessert, reportedly (10)
- 23 Exit broadcast happy, I see (7)
- 24 Bankers at Zurich subsidiary see you later (7)
- 25 Knock-off drug found in untidy room (6)
- 26 Having symptom of measles, seeing dose regularly cut (6)

Down

- 1 Shoots up, climbing above English nettle (5)
- 2 Tweaking mantis leg is childish (7)
- 3 Book having wit at its core and the ultimate in poetic connective elements (9)
- 5 Reasoning given by everyone in trial (5)
- 6 Beautiful woman with idiot husband? Most improbable! (7)
- 7 Kitchen cleaner failed Mensa test (4,5)
- 10 Politicians confuse empty remonstrations with outrage (9)
- 13 Flimsy boat for ambassador? (9)
- 15 Flasher exposes rear end outside a Republican inauguration (9)
- 17 Leaves bewildered delegations following expulsion of corrupt aide (7)
- 19 Inventory said to be lengthy in the extreme (7)
- 21 Curious about one composer (5)
- 22 Provide word describing bagpipes, perhaps (5)