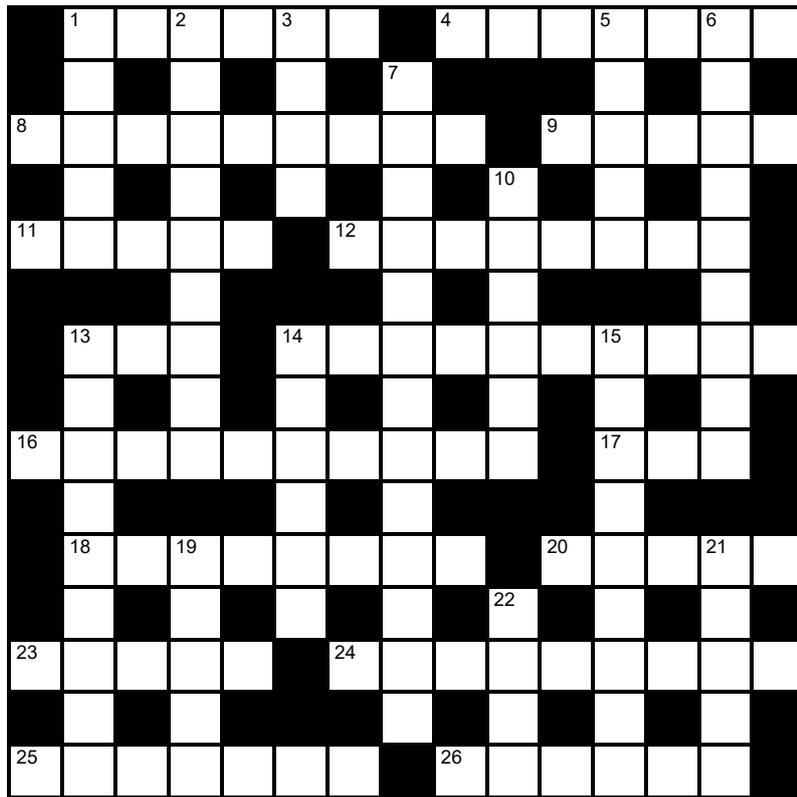


"Echoes of the Towers."



**Across**

- 1 Fear gentleman has pinched, in other words, the household valuables (6)
- 4 Treat as a 9 arriving at dubious gain (7)
- 8 What's missing in British letters is crime... (9)
- 9 ...the perpetrator, lone fellow, must be deranged (5)
- 11 Manservant resolves very tangled tale (5)
- 12 Having turned umber, nap in partial shade (8)
- 13 Text oath back to hornless 17, perhaps (3)
- 14 It's some job to find humour in an apartment block with one wing demolished (10)

- 16 A bloomer in Scotty's language? (4-6)
- 17 Subdue livestock (3)
- 18 A mother, shortly lacking in melanin, worried about what keeps track of the hours in the sun (8)
- 20 Father, say, discontented attractive young woman (5)
- 23 Disdain shameful conduct, on recovering notebook at first (5)
- 24 Unintentionally bait cur - no situation for a good egg? (9)
- 25 Mediocre American suppresses replacement for milk (7)

- 26 Flammable gas in use? Then evacuate! (6)

**Down**

- 1 Schemers and lovers surprised, all being led a merry dance (5)
- 2 Hankering after the 20s, see how close you can get to be around her (9)
- 3 Girl, 18, is less obsessive (4)
- 5 Loss of recipe for 'bracer' concoction leaves one bitter (5)
- 6 Unruffled, fine when newt sheds tail (4,2,3)
- 7 Having embroiled gent (e.g. in dames), retreat (13)
- 10 Widely-audible huntswoman promoting her right to break in and steal (6)
- 13 For one fed up with romance from start to finish, he only has to join the dots to see what's coming (9)
- 14 Pole, upset over a couple of points, runs away to avoid 7? (6)
- 15 Falsely avow crime to take the heat off? Quite the reverse (9)
- 19 Abstainers involve threesome endlessly in matters of the heart (5)
- 21 Despot, potentially taking time for old china (5)
- 22 Don't start to provoke one's relative (4)