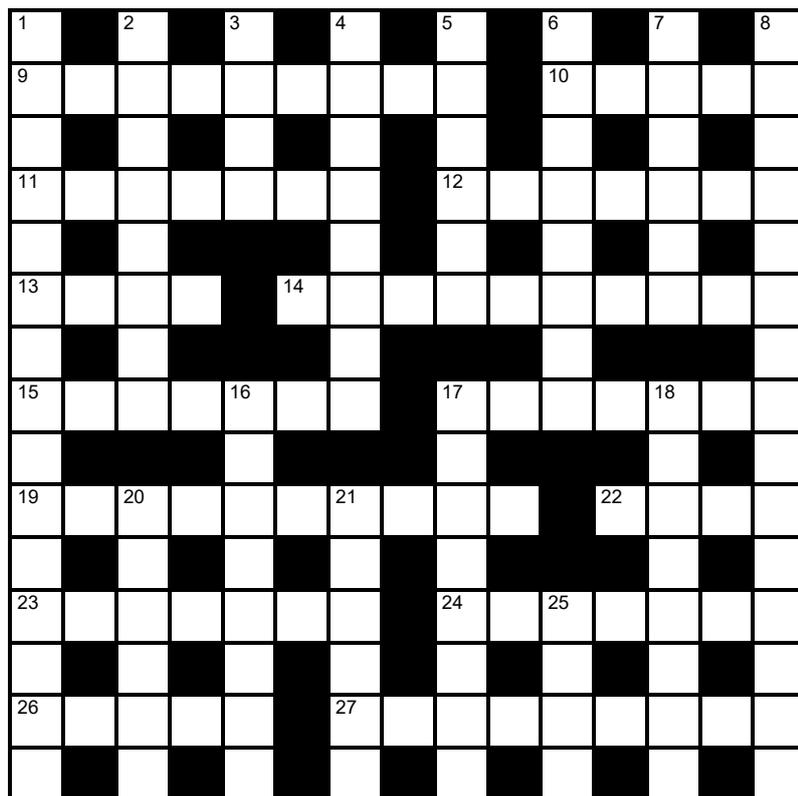


Cold Mountain



Across

- 9 First couple in Chamonix to fly by helicopter, perhaps? An easy way to get to the top! (9)
- 10 Could these help on slippery slope? (5)
- 11 Shock conclusion to latest In Our Time (7)
- 12 Company's detailed patent concerning hard shell, perhaps? (7)
- 13 Average taken from median or mode (4)
- 14 Quickly measure barrel, after contents removed (10)
- 15 South-Easterly gales blowing - you might need these on board! (3,4)
- 17 Exercise on

- vacation, with dodgy pills to get in shape (7)
- 19 A cheap Tory involved with drug-dealer (10)
- 22 Cunning and resourceful, Clouseau hunts leads (4)
- 23 Aerial worker installed before girl got back (7)
- 24 Sell now - supply inflated (7)
- 26 Insect found in lake and river (5)
- 27 A setter's visiting old flames - they're being marked (9)

Down

- 1 Reports return - Idris up for Outstanding Figure (8,7)
- 2 I ate crab, developed salmonella (8)
- 3 Waste a class going back over lesson, perhaps?... (4)
- 4 ...Rules not hard to follow, class: detailed study of moving forces (8)
- 5 Re-treating cuts with firm plaster (6)
- 6 Unearthly colour's fringing palest shape (8)
- 7 Downhill race is all turns, some (not all) to the outside (6)
- 8 Impeachment case is lacking informant; extremely corrupt way to avoid facing

- up to the facts (6,9)
- 16 Improved each end with new make-up (8)
- 17 Britain's relationship with EU on track to turn sour, mired in rising cost (8)
- 18 Level and equal, top and bottom, to describe a pair of lines (8)
- 20 Return from elsewhere and settle (6)
- 21 Empty love found in Parisian cathouse (6)
- 25 Forget to ring chap back (4)