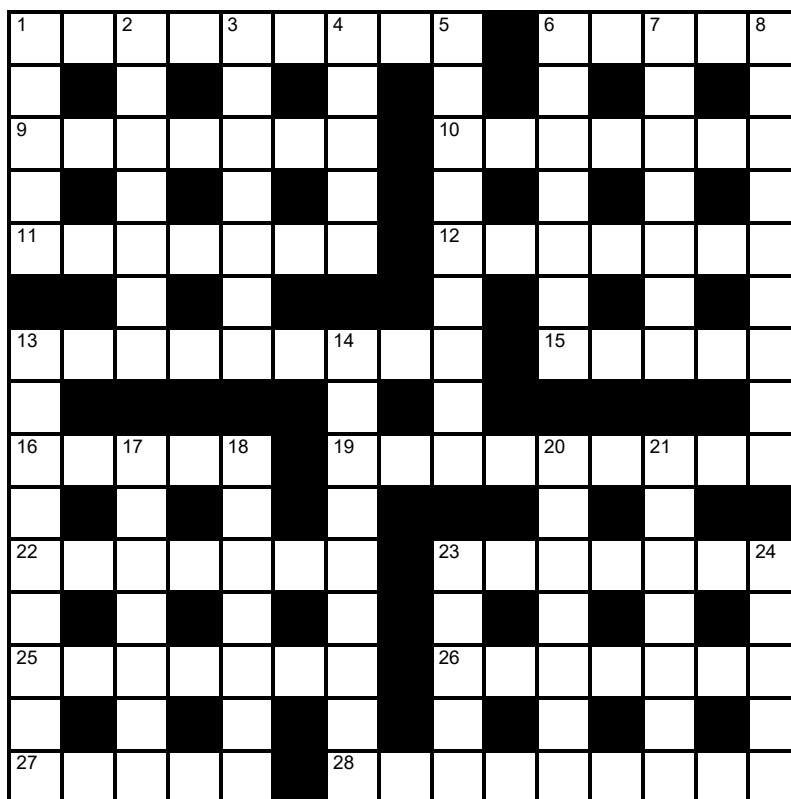


Across

- 1 Matt finish? (6,3)
- 6 Better dressed than in your pants (5)
- 9 Poorly trimmed mullet, say? In rather bad taste (7)
- 10 Sprinter on drugs? (7)
- 11 Back two, as a mathematician might say (4,3)
- 12 Late adopter's nuts working? Not applicable (7)
- 13 Abracadabra? Abra Cadabra?? Abra Kadabra??? (9)
- 15 In time, Royalists backed scope of authority (5)
- 16 Soup containing what dangles from its end (5)



- 19 In compliant mode after initial post-menopausal change? Big time! (9)
- 22 Chooses not to put so cryptically (4,3)
- 23 Most satisfactory interpretation of map in case (7)
- 25 Pestered husky driver, perhaps (7)
- 26 Vaguely like paella stirred too carelessly. But less paprika? (7)
- 27 After 12, starting to "endearingly" emulate naff singers (5)

- 28 Starship discovered when used to broadcast extra-orbitally (6,3)

Down

- 1 Vain riddler? (5)
- 2 Performance in ditch not tolerated by some (7)
- 3 Eventually drunk in wicked excess of booze (7)
- 4 Remaining calmer after sobbing starts (5)
- 5 They may protect us from dubious scams involving fake bananas (4,5)

- 6 Dad unwisely invested in expensive foreign food (7)

- 7 In enemy not named we find friend, perhaps? (7)

- 8 Schmoozy topless dance: yukky start, but not gooey, syrupy (9)

- 13 Sexy (ish) arrangement of photo crop (4,2,3)

- 14 Funny name, sounds like creep's crawlers (9)

- 17 Paper-cutter's *maitresse* snipping about it the wrong way (7)

- 18 Loosely improvises new lots (7)

- 20 Goblin behind gnome's back, neither can advance (7)

- 21 Audibly chews, or conversely hip-hop (7)

- 23 They're so far out and naturally kinky (5)

- 24 Caught tickling her bottom in time out (5)