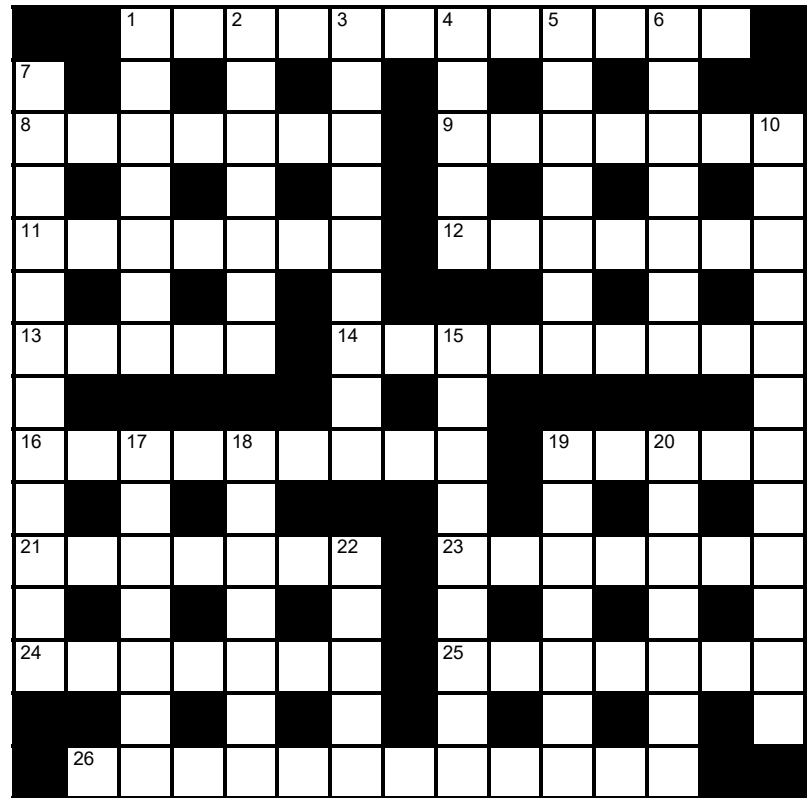


**Across**

- 1 How to make baby owl panic? (5,1,6)
- 8 Orders despatched by close of business on first of November (7)
- 9 Finally they amplify the volume (7)
- 11 Pupil is part of this study party (7)
- 12 Sight of see-saw by the sound of it (7)
- 13 On reflection much of hairshirt penitence is futile (5)
- 14 Protection from potentially nasty fate - eye-opener for 23 (6,3)
- 16 Simply, cleaner's uniform's unusually lousy (9)
- 19 Opening round's best bits regularly shown (5)

- 21 Scot's hunkiest Nationalist quits - proving most lightweight! (7)
- 23 Surname Ricardo, somewhat Latin perhaps... (7)
- 24 ...accordingly supporter of European monarch (7)
- 25 Typical case of old tree needing boost of alimantation primarily (7)
- 26 Deliver on promise to carry a weapon (4,4,4)



**Down**

- 1 Kind of artist's set-up with unknown drugs lying around (7)
- 2 Role-play in a recent production (2-5)
- 3 Personal agendas - for attention of fairy godmothers? (4,5)
- 4 Thrash with beer hotel included (5)
- 5 Most rotten spot of bother putting out Sweden - it's unrecoverable (3,4)
- 6 See Green Party leader once (7)
- 7 Incredible buzz of beehive with blocked exit? (12)

- 10 One won't get far in Japan with this pendant (1,3,2,6)
- 15 Landing strips where air travellers could meet a sticky end (9)
- 17 Produce trick most of panel praise at the finish (7)
- 18 Need drink after six balls go past the edge (7)
- 19 Season with this bespectacled daughter in tragic play (7)
- 20 Poorly prepared to take off parliament's principle character - Miliband? (7)
- 22 Fitting artifice (3-2)