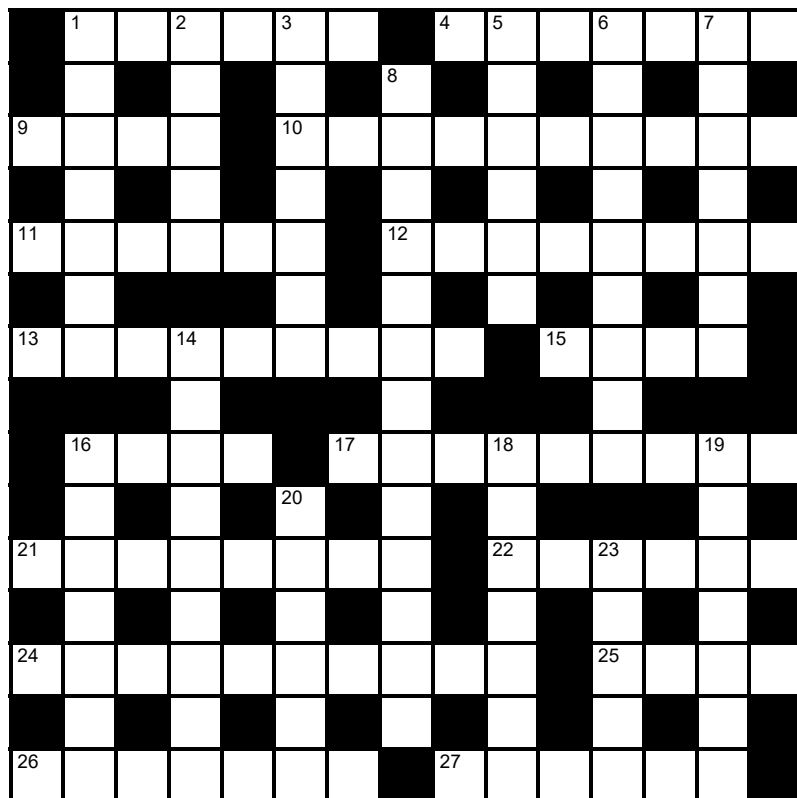


**Across**

- 1 Fall in drops and drips regularly lit from the rear (6)
- 4 Curious aspect, one not liable to decay (7)
- 9 British beer in package of goods (4)
- 10 Dardanelles long ago, infernal place, especially on boat ultimately (10)
- 11 Accepted knowledge ultimately shared about things to be done (6)
- 12 Took firm hold of small aquatic birds and marsh herons (8)
- 13 Over-the-top concerning literally base magnesium-rich mineral (9)
- 15 Bravo! ordinary wife succeeded. Lowers head as sign of respect (4)
- 16 Remain American: give a broad smile (4)
- 17 Receptacle; surprisingly new creation (9)
- 21 Hard worker supporting classy German car dealer (8)
- 22 Backward son with a question - he fails to appear (2-4)
- 24 Megalithic monument's extraordinary parthenogenesis (frolicking pairs not needed!) (10)
- 25 In a frenzy in the morning certainly (4)
- 26 Type of mandarin yellowish pottery (7)
- 27 Winged seed remains vital (3-3)



**Down**

- 1 Sounds like plan for a drink (7)
- 2 Inflexible old Scottish star (5)
- 3 In Islam he, sadly, is the rejected son (7)
- 5 Lady set out pieces of paper (6)
- 6 Pungent seasoning on Italy's top sausage (9)
- 7 Pub in good essentially coastal lands recovered from the sea (7)
- 8 Get round clumsy fellow going off travelling world wide (5-8)

- 14 Saint abandoning unwonted sacredness, rises again (9)
- 16 Grumble over players not finally getting medicinal drink (4,3)
- 18 Carers - gentle souls principally (7)
- 19 English modest about record in environmental science (7)
- 20 Understand obese Frenchman? Not me (6)
- 23 Taste of heroin (5)