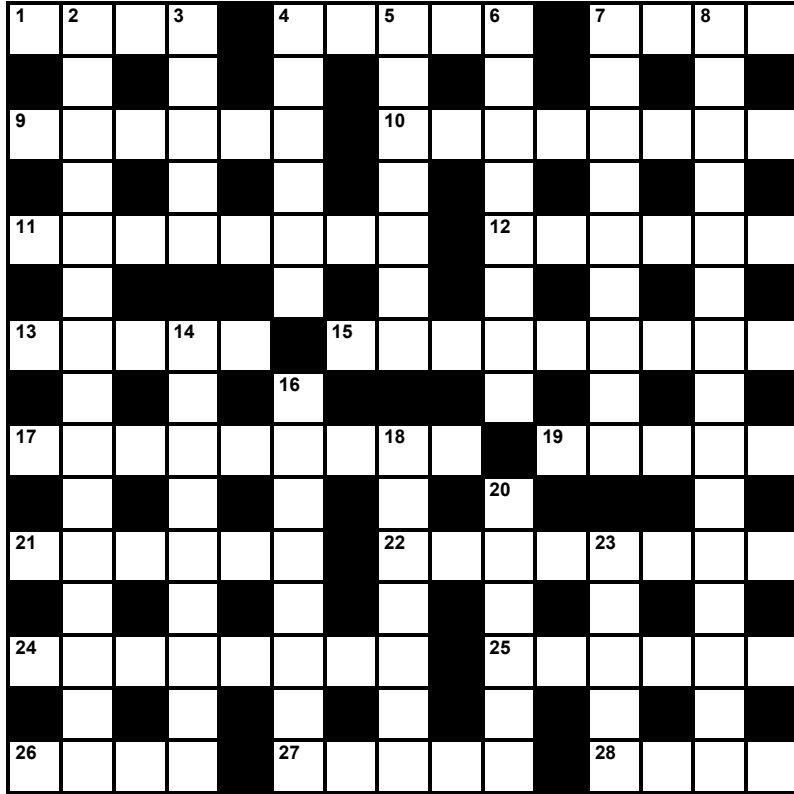


by



**Across**

- 1 Force the whole lot to descend (4)
- 4/7 Boxers kill baseball player (5,4)
- 9 Mark of unpleasant people going west to area around Boston (6)
- 10 Clothes people tense in tattered rags (8)
- 11 Type of jar with swollen sides in which mice run around after exercise (8)
- 12 Sudden meet to include leaders of Belarus, Russia and Uzbekistan (6)
- 13 Grind grand architect (5)

- 15 Faculty members copy rotten way to remove snow from car? (6,3)
- 17 Waste fuel cores glow (9)
- 19 State-owned back in '10 (5)
- 21 Quick - throw doctor into the river! (6)
- 22 What setter does in shops before buying, we hear, raising these at high prices? (8)
- 24 Release pressure from island, bringing in priest for dinner there? (8)
- 25 Sailors hide relationship with animals (6)

- 26/27/28 Had sedate, refined parties - sadly no more (4,2,3,4)

**Down**

- 2 Interior Ministry starts to get worried after Le Pen taunt goes wrong, with two more to come (15)
- 3 Soldier blocking upward pass for good reason (5)
- 4 Old music made by ... "Major Barbara" in its original form? (6)
- 5/18 Paper before Hague court gets me this confused scientist (7,7)
- 6 Hear artist consider carefully and refuse admission (4,4)

- 7 Heard apes formed the vanguard of the attack (9)
- 8 Disgracefully throw food (polenta) without a feeling of elation (2,3,2,3,5)
- 14 Brummell, noisy in bed according to Spooner, used to go downhill in winter (9)
- 16 Made rare detour for South American river (8)
- 18 See 5
- 20 Sleep around, taking time for grind (6)
- 23 Soft in attack, but quick (5)