

## ACROSS

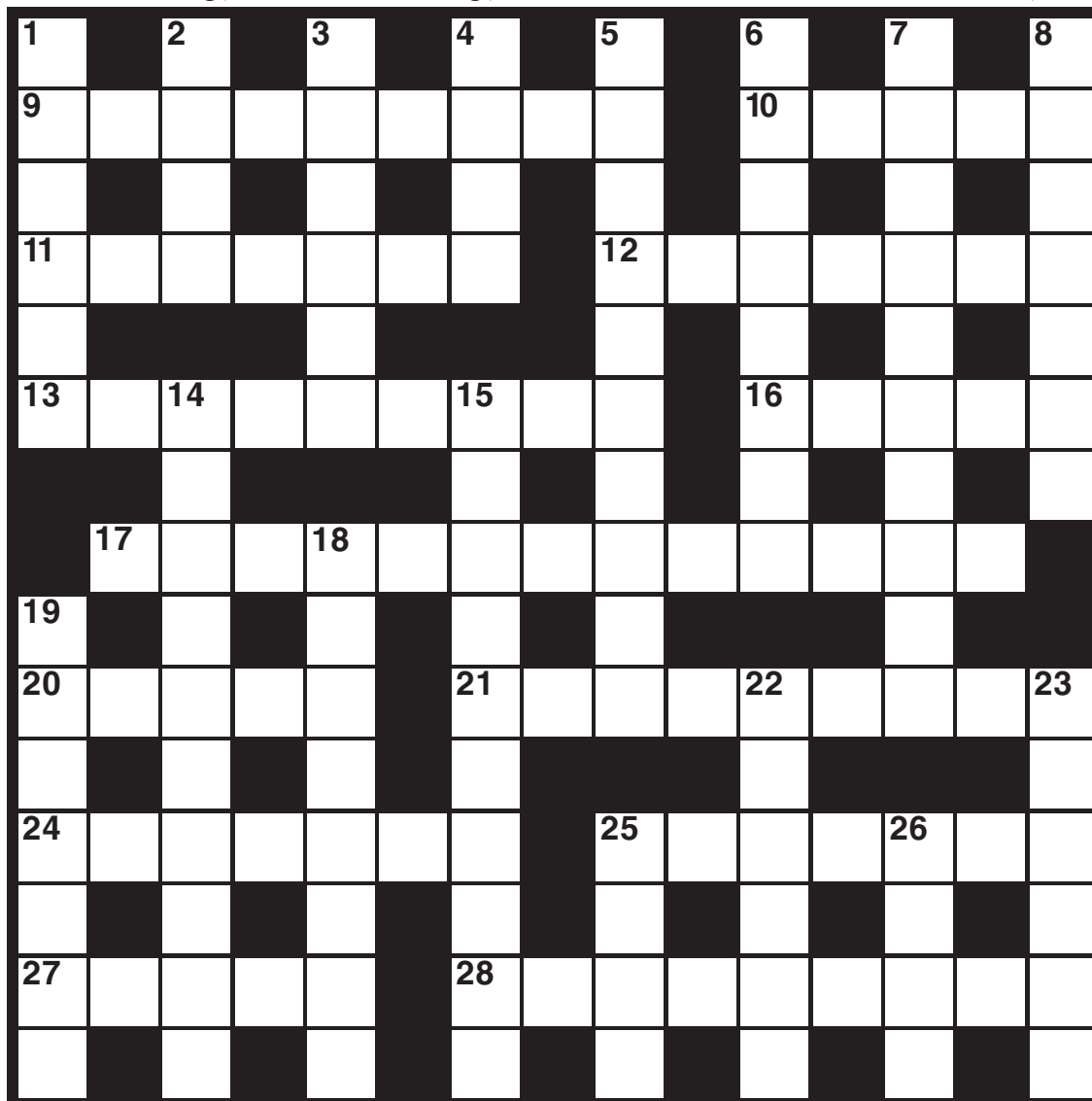
- 9 Snowdrop seen in the fall? (9)  
10 Model inheritor - it belongs to them (5)  
11 Accomplice is a gambler, we hear (7)  
12 Further note about housing contract delights (7)  
13 Old volunteers pranced about for entertainer (3,6)  
16 Relative size of fish plate (5)  
17 Ship's area for dance, dance eked out (9,4)  
20 Exercise which will bore? (5)  
21 Examiner's to look at alternative (9)  
24 Knight goes west with monarch, gambling (7)  
25 Our ones appear troublesome (7)  
27 New book (5)  
28 Convicts' titles? (9)

## DOWN

- 1 Empty container inside another (6)  
2 Pantomime character made to perform (4)  
3 Fellow drawing back to get sacred text (6)  
4 Brilliant finish for pear tree (4)  
5 Reckless people speed badly over bumpy roads (10)  
6 Puddings upset – under strain (8)  
7 Long-haired animal it's certain asp poisoned (7,3)  
8 Relied on Edward to cover the corrosion (7)  
14 Extremely tolerant, according to the letter (10)  
15 Europe, perhaps, maintaining good group (10)  
18 Broken plum tile of many parts (8)

Wednesday, 24th January, 2024

No. 16,553



19 Worshipping another rain-god (7)

22 They go off dramatically! (6)

23 Put up a fight, when sister in trouble (6)

25 Formerly residing in Congleton, certainly (4)

26 Goths miss regular resistance (4)