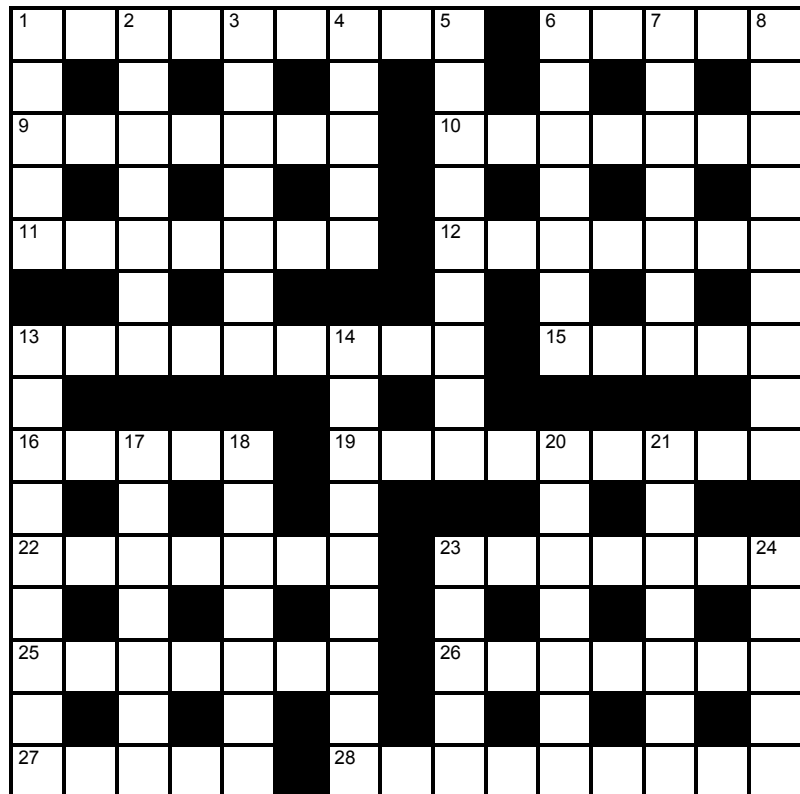


Across

- 1 Become conscious after picking up CAT flyer (9)
- 6 China's no longer entertaining right monster (5)
- 9 Regret backing operations to produce a continental sound (7)
- 10 African removing head and tail from two insects? (7)
- 11 Severe Russian leader framed by detectives from the west (7)
- 12 Build a parrot to scale (3,4)



- 13 Not the first alpaca seen to disturb quiet part of the garden (9)
- 15 Leaves King grappling with small change (5)
- 16 Support some men do without (5)
- 19 Reserve place in Crete church (9)
- 22 Allegedly, it's where you'll find the dirty dishes all together (2,5)
- 23 Conflict between mail carriers, sounds like it's over (4-3)
- 25 Describe piece of land that used to be flat! (7)

- 26 Regrets beginning sweet with a gooey coating (7)
- 27 News in digital form could become a heavy burden (5)
- 28 Man's life is almost completely ruined after losing this (9)

Down

- 1 What bakers do want to hear (5)
- 2 Caterer cooked for spectators, here (7)
- 3 Force topless creatures found on rocks to adopt uniform (7)

- 4 A flavouring, mostly used for jelly (5)
- 5 Gag soldiers seized by alien rig (9)
- 6 Upset volunteers show contempt for housing as quickly as possible (4,3)
- 7 Period of play when shattered man gets inside edge? (7)
- 8 I've no idea if monk's date is unorthodox (4,3,2)
- 13 Tenant submits to quiet leader (9)
- 14 Not Hampshire, that's about right! (9)

- 17 Most of Springfield gets rubbish collected here? (7)
- 18 White-collar executive finally becomes hopeful (7)
- 20 What sailors do when knitting's finished? (4,3)
- 21 Wife imprisoned by scientist somewhere in Mid-Wales (7)
- 23 Get a load of group's almighty spiritual number (5)
- 24 Two boys - both could be king (5)