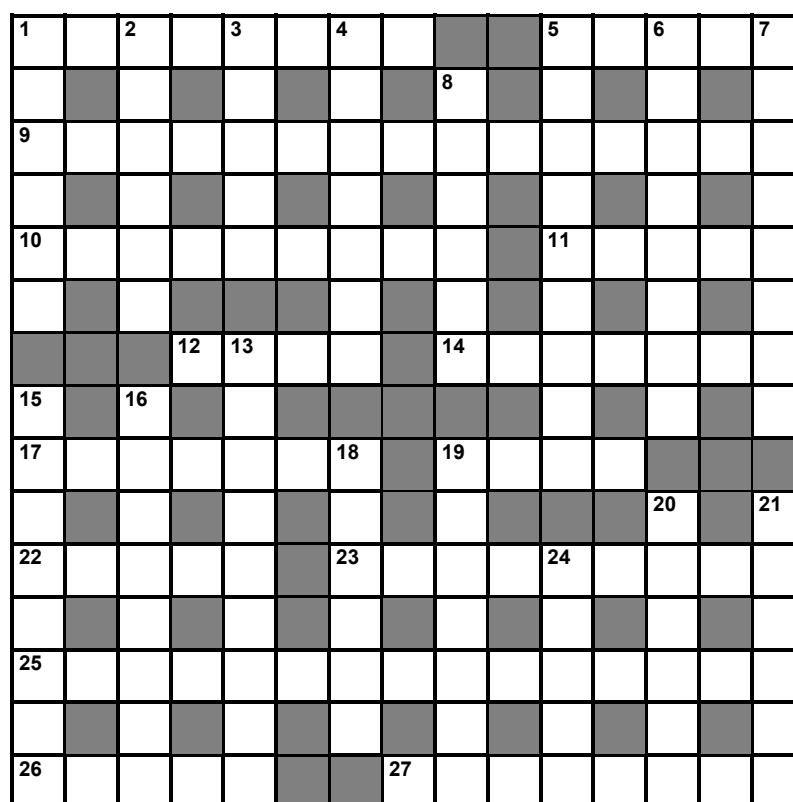


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## ACROSS

- 1 Victim implicated in factual counter-statement (8)
- 5 Price plugged by a taxi (5)
- 9 Executive's offsider and confidant, finally embraced by 13-down, organised party? (5,3,4,3)
- 10 Head away from Earth time with current orbit (5-4)
- 11 Fall over pine product? (5)
- 12 Front of church over the hill is made of stone (4)
- 14 Spy retreating carrying iodine, sulphur and potentially lethal substances (7)
- 17 Lectures given by one involved in commercial dealings (7)
- 19 Compliant letters not forwarded from among fake emails (4)
- 22 Field hosting competition ultimately? (5)
- 23 Keep back a display's ornament inlaid with precious metal (9)
- 25 Break dance group making a comeback in the country (15)
- 26 Execute crazy manoeuvre on road (5)
- 27 Be trapped in large bedroom by an alert dog (8)

## DOWN

- 1 Work for a newspaper on computer interface (6)
- 2 Trouble surfaced in pub around corner (4,2)
- 3 Small child with little education may be carried (5)
- 4 Cracked head covered in blood is fixed (7)
- 5 Struggle in company to reject chicken's quality (9)
- 6 A piece of underwear is riding up on sensitive skin (8)
- 7 Order and sit around eating lunches, say? (8)
- 8 Boost site with one lost little dog (4,2)
- 13 Clue for "amount", possibly, could be an exception (3,3,3)
- 15 Stuck with single thin lengths twisted together (8)
- 16 One wearing tattered spencer enters slowly (6,2)
- 18 Escort parked behind vacated site is quiet? (6)
- 19 Reminder of the past carried by some men today (7)
- 20 Die horribly in the arms of tight-lipped spiritualist (6)
- 21 Intimidate bishop not wanted in republic of western Asia (4,2)
- 24 Ending of this story is unoriginal (5)