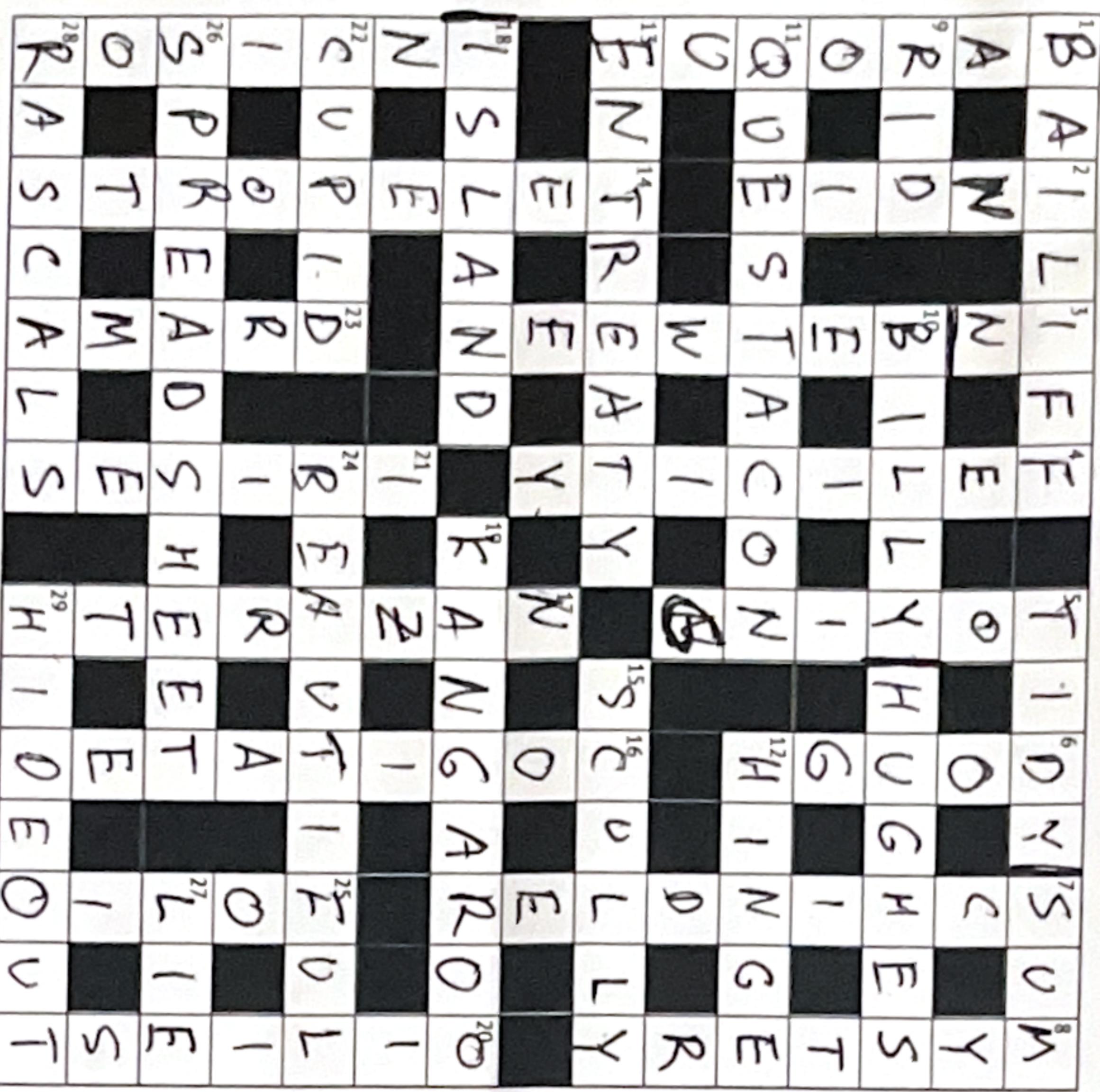


Thursday, June 26, 2025

Cryptic • by DA



ACROSS

- 1 ~~B~~ A 2 I L 3 I F 4 F T 5 D N 6 S U 7 M
 8 A 9 N 10 E O C Y
 11 R 12 D 13 B 14 L 15 Y H U G H E S
 16 O 17 E 18 I 19 G 20 T
 21 Q 22 E 23 S 24 T 25 A 26 C 27 O 28 N 29 H 30 I N G E
 31 U 32 W 33 I 34 Q 35 D 36 R
 37 E 38 N 39 T 40 R 41 E A T Y 42 15 S 43 C 44 U 45 L 46 L Y
 47 E 48 E Y 49 N 50 O 51 E
 52 I 53 S 54 L 55 A 56 N 57 D 58 K 59 A 60 N 61 G 62 A 63 R 64 O 65 20 B
 66 N 67 E 68 E 69 A 70 N 71 D 72 I 73 Z 74 1 75 1 76 1
 77 C 78 U 79 P 80 1 81 D 82 R 83 E 84 A 85 R 86 A 87 O 88 1
 89 S 90 P 91 R 92 E 93 A 94 D 95 S 96 H 97 E 98 T 99 L 100 I 101 E
 102 O 103 T 104 M 105 E 106 T 107 E 108 I 109 S 110 H 111 O 112 E 113 O 114 V 115 T
 116 R 117 A 118 S 119 C 120 A 121 L 122 S 123 H 124 I 125 O 126 R 127 A 128 T 129 S

DOWN

- 1 ~~X~~ Hearing aid to leave back on shelf if pinched? (7)
 2 ~~X~~ King's ransom squared away? (4,3) ~~NES~~
 3 ~~X~~ Friday partly free (3) ~~RID~~
 4 ~~X~~ Old PM in loud shades, acquiring pot (5,6)
 5 ~~X~~ Squat once refurbished into Canberra museum (9)
 6 ~~X~~ Unwrapped whip and switch say - a device for swingers? (5)
 7 ~~X~~ Even keenly concealing delicacy on request (8)
 8 ~~X~~ Paranormal sleuth has row with spy base (6)
 9 ~~X~~ See 19-across
 10 ~~X~~ 15,18-across
 11 ~~X~~ Koalas adorning rocky koala sanctuary (8,6)
 12 ~~X~~ Prize name of lover-boy? (5)
 13 ~~X~~ Stunning blue Fiat convertible hugging bend (9) ~~BEAUTIFUL~~
 14 ~~X~~ Excel in jams, removing plugs from ~~headset~~? (11)
 15 ~~X~~ DeLillo regularly cut back ~~fiction~~ (3)
 16 ~~X~~ Grass scam also exposed ~~villains~~ (7)
 17 ~~X~~ Lair providing grisly details, at ~~wifis~~ end (7)
 18 ~~X~~ Said to count skimmed accounts to make rapid transfers? (9) ~~TELEPORTS~~
 19 ~~X~~ Thought company upset on losing principal (9)
 20 ~~X~~ Lord's town in New Zealand - Haast down south - rebuilt on bores (8)
 21 ~~X~~ Favoured vocal one ~~measuring~~ tooth (7)
 22 ~~X~~ Slickest Love Island ~~LIE~~ 27-across linked to do-gooder (7)
 23 ~~X~~ One with tendencies to doff a pair of waders? (6)
 24 ~~X~~ Play old woman with 'arsh upbringing' (5)
 25 ~~X~~ Leaf of forest elm will colour in seconds (5)

14:30 - 16:47