

Cryptic crossword #1

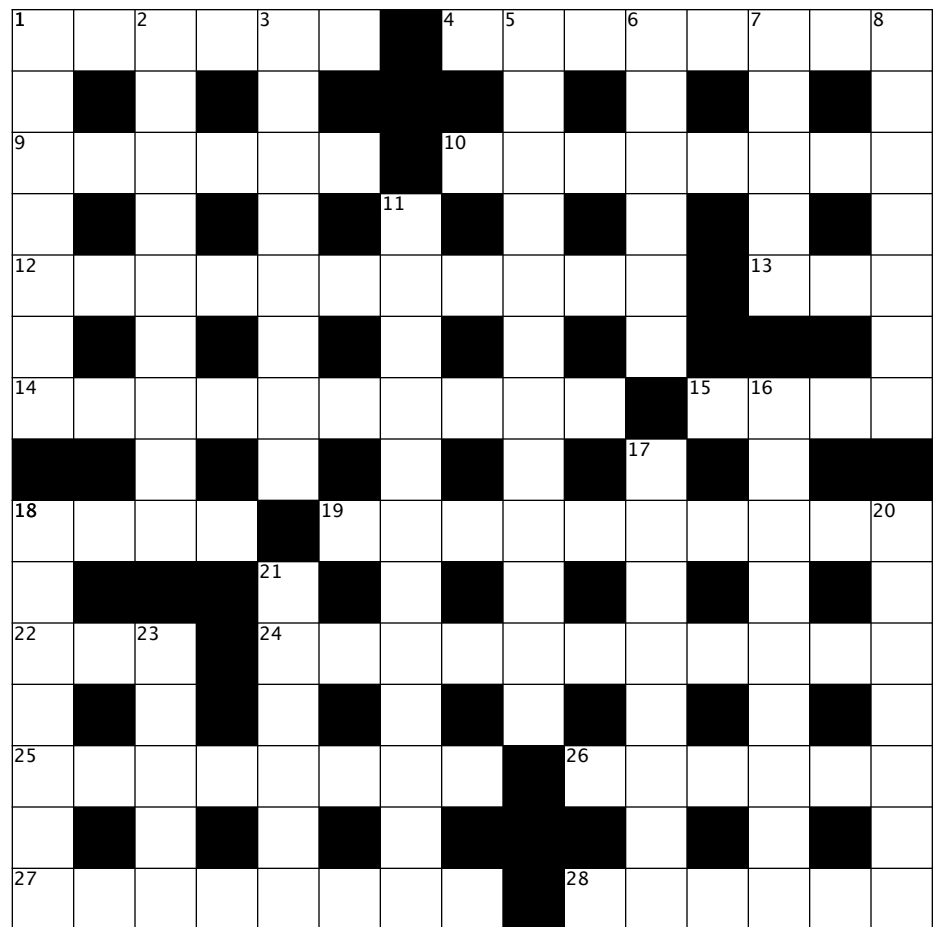
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ACROSS

1. Former lover cues rambling justification for bad behavior (6)
4. Group of twelve beers going around mail (8)
9. Around 2001, company beginning to take pledge (6)
10. Crimean – a destroyed nationality (8)
12. Truman Capote cuts out chapter's introduction by mistake, resulting in a blend of words (11)
13. Take a seat – it's broken (3)
14. Free from illusion, this can end poorly (10)
15. Small vehicle creates lasting mark (4)
18. In situ, she's behind (4)
19. Vote for or back Nic by computer (10)
22. Overheard in guest house (3)
24. Thinner lads all over backwoods (11)
25. Don't supply weapons pit? (8)
26. Initially, girlfriend felt our relationship could experience acceleration (1-5)
27. Western lawman first hid a listening device (8)
28. Beginning in Common Era, guy who cometh on Broadway? (6)

DOWN

1. Took off hat amid decaying seed (7)
2. Makes up salary increases (9)
3. Various hip men tracking hidden cargo (8)
5. Per boxing referee, five cents for bread (12)
6. Brightest star in sky is reportedly very important (6)
7. Hair becomes stuck in place (5)
8. Treason corrupted politician (7)
11. Eventually chop up, unthrone Ling (2,3,4,3)
16. Against United Nations, beat difficult puzzle (9)



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17. Mostly pro-life, I start to commence producing many offspring (8)
18. Song contains a good-natured tease – it speaks for the people of Rome (7)
20. Intelligence agency gets out of Cistercian's tank (7)
21. House of worship – you are sermonizing between two chapters (6)
23. On the radio, activist Ralph reveals lowest point in fortunes (5)