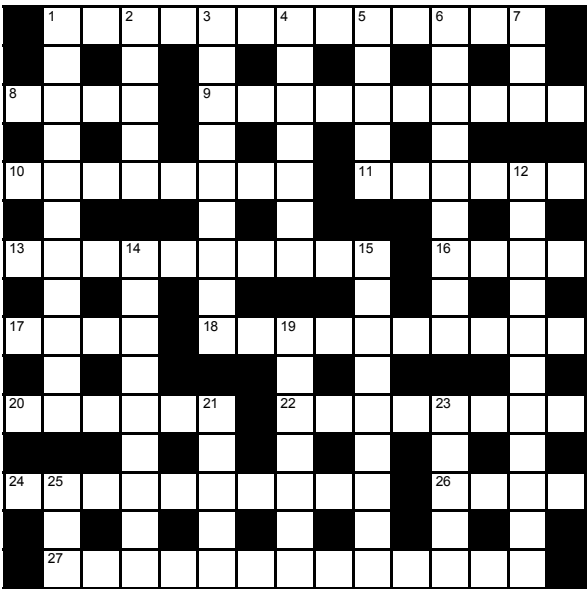


Across

- 1 Netherlands people changed church (5,8)
- 8 Original Alex transport came back for old timers' first class (3,1)
- 9 Practising check over judges - good ... (10)
- 10 ... + positive omen (4,4)
- 11 Constructs step-by-step Lear bench-test (6)
- 13 Undecided about Namib valet (10)
- 16 Goggo will bite back (4)
- 17 Fool takes part in hammed-up Evita (4)
- 18 Get into quiet growth of business (10)
- 20 Cottage at cold hotel needs a permit (6)
- 22 Say, thieves take underwear! (8)
- 24 Scoundrel is one grand European bent briefly on getting prime area (10)
- 26 Casts following heart of Andrew Lloyd Webber to final celeb auditions (4)
- 27 Book lease on one's property in Algoa Bay (7,6)



25 Weep for despised male puppy? (3)

Down

- 1 Twice rant about small Eastern Cape seaside resort (6,5)
- 2 The clipped Alinazik starter is for Asians (5)
- 3 Retreat to legacy surrounding first Matabele (9)
- 4 Upgrade, hence an improvement (7)
- 5 Rotten, endless time getting into maturity (2,3)
- 6 Carrier has predicament with green produce (9)
- 7 Colour said to be finished (3)
- 12 Criminal BRICS art den taken down (11)
- 14 I dole out fashion having fired very dogmatic adherent (9)
- 15 Poles name new snail (9)
- 19 Hired intakes at Centre; none turns up (5,2)
- 21 Territory imploring Beijing enter talks to start with! (5)
- 23 Writer OK? Half OK? Mad even? (5)