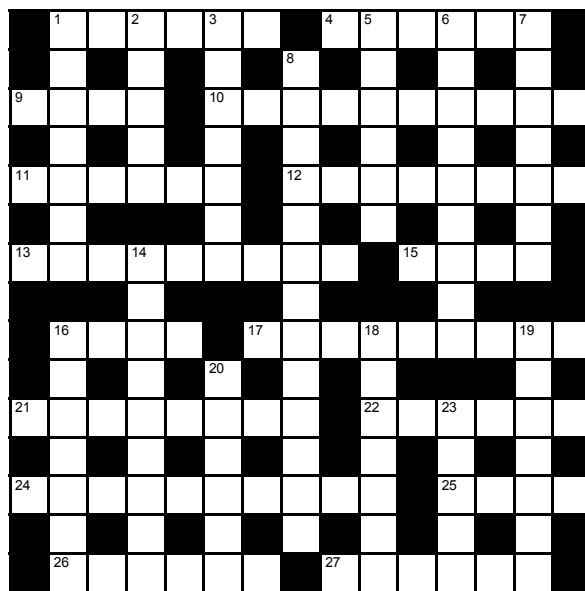


Across

- 1 Bill to drop excuse (6)
- 4 Help! Massive cover-up about pilot (6)
- 9 Stuart loses knack and heart to amaze (4)
- 10 Calls about returning extra chemicals (10)
- 11 Keep back and tie off (6)
- 12 Settled by opening trade (gold & aluminium) along the coast (8)
- 13 Stick heading west, doctor, to genuine German village (9)
- 15 Fire - not hot - makes black powder (4)
- 16 Criticise *The Kiss*, starting with the heart of Rodin (4)
- 17 Barge through the veld and bush, but shortly collapse (5,4)
- 21 Standing stone that tiger, say, grabs lion off (8)
- 22 Love-50? Yes, phenomenal tennis shot! (6)
- 24 Terrible gout to greet seller with "Vasbyt!" (5,2,3)
- 25 Put across the franchise? (4)
- 26 Draf odd errands collecting food (6)
- 27 See dock and trouble with good old sailor (3,3)



- 19 Shame that's hidden in ship had come up (7)
- 20 Figure of speech like 'beam-covered inn front' (6)
- 23 Outraged, produces four through cover (5)

Down

- 1 Trade off business in the style of the 1920s (3,4)
- 2 Understand question about Opposition (5)
- 3 Encroach on one politician in outskirts of George (7)
- 5 Terminates a smell with British oddly leaving (6)
- 6 Come into picture and hop around with boot created by doctor (9)
- 7 Final costume stage worker finds chic (7)
- 8 Spring considered to be honoured (4-7-2)
- 14 Forced out and shut down fancy accommodation? (9)
- 16 Go to sleep in designated airport area (4,3)
- 18 Fan provides support under injured dove (7)