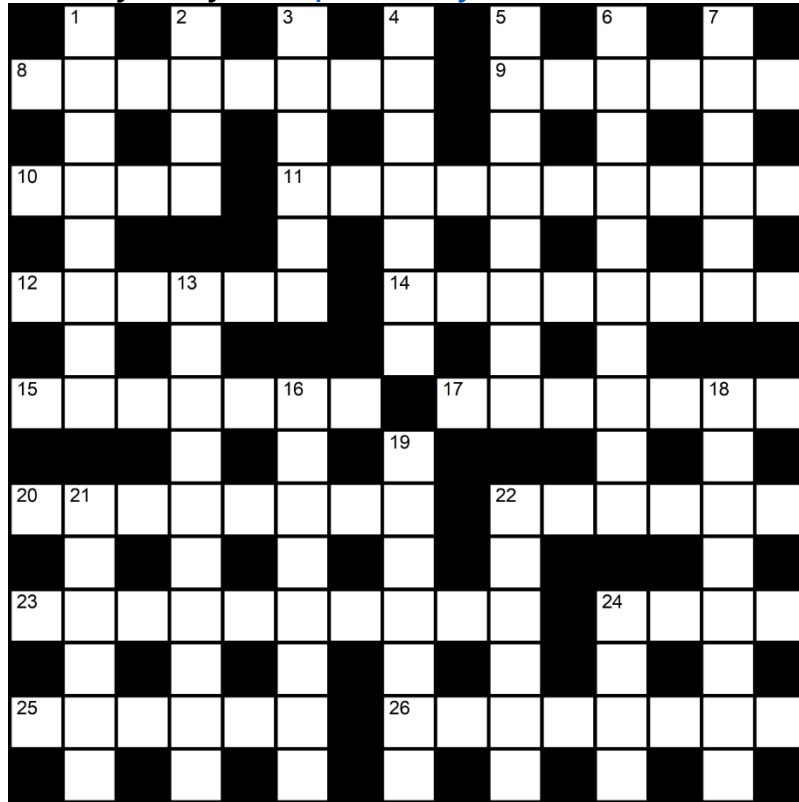


Set by Māyā <https://mayaofauckland.com>



Across

- 8 Bore gate-crashing to attract bird (8)
 9 He had a plum job once (6)
 10/2 Faithful, but real sad (4,4)
 11 Carmen reportedly to display pelts? (10)
 12 See 3 Down
 14 Point to knock you French disregarded when water moves least (4,4)
 15 Crack-head metal-head removed - a headcase! (7)
 17 PC may be on it, or vice versa (7)
 20 Shell content, say, to refine the wig (3,5)
 22/22D Adopters of my frailest parts (6,6)
 23 Nice in the drink by Roger's Retreat, where knots are produced (6,4)
 24/24D Casts off TVs and becomes ill with foot raised (4,4)
 25 Ribs: part of the face? (6)
 26 They say the pit's very dark in Finland (8)

Down

- 1 I'm told God is close - could it be more difficult? (8)
 2 See 10 Across
 3/12 Fibres clumsiest use to move around (6,6)
 4 Britain, stereotypical British weather, and European winner of Eurovision (7)
 5 Two "Lord of the Rings" characters in the South East? That's them, all right! (8)
 6 Embarks upon last rites? (10)
 7 Sacred rattle's rattled (6)
 13 Airman or woman is Spooner's spotter of sin (10)
 16 Motorcycles rev in unison, holding everything up (8)
 18 Pass is visible (take tip-off) (8)
 19 African kingdom gets less of the endless love (7)
 21 Note with greeting for spiritual leader (6)
 22 See 22 Across
 24 See 24 Across