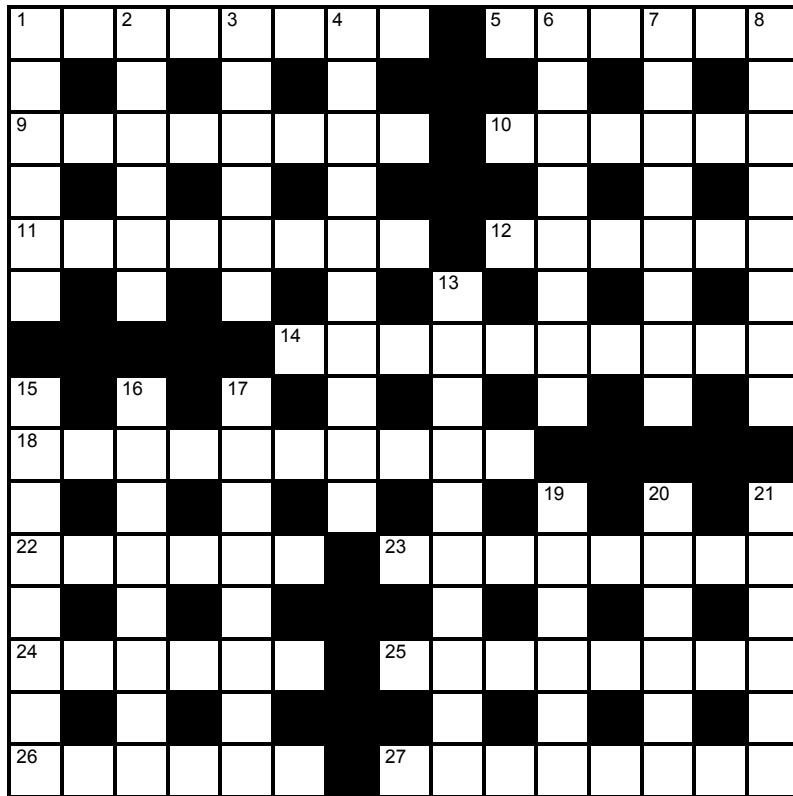


#9 by Rupert Morrish

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Across

- 1 Quickly visit bird who's vain and talkative (8)
- 5 Under left hand of six-fingered setter who shifts (6)
- 9 High school record broken by rookie, A1 substitute (8)
- 10 Wing case and horny tail found in later bug (6)
- 11 Spooner's dislike of narrative potboiler (3,5)
- 12 Perkier regulars expose supplement (3,3)
- 14 Live long in confusion re: ponzi scheme in Stockholm (5,5)
- 18 Depressed setter venerated with blunt spear (10)
- 22 Five cent loaf losing heart (6)
- 23 Remedy against the Maori after-party (8)
- 24 By degrees, right one basket in city (6)
- 25 Admit ambitions against one's team (3,5)
- 26 Dodges parked backwards in civilised avenue (6)
- 27 Dig boxer out of real universities! (8)

Down

- 1 Chops gory end out of movie (6)
- 2 Bad astronomer's hair style (6)
- 3 Cloud of dust initially billowing up in cycle lane (6)
- 4 Dirty soap on cup told of mark (10)
- 6 Properly maintained ball in gloves (4-4)
- 7 Going up a level includes castle upgrade (8)
- 8 It's rising, in time, with extra priming! (8)
- 13 Gain awl used in penetration of shoes and ships (7,3)
- 15 Rapper Max on new church dignitary (8)
- 16 Clean tap out after birth (8)
- 17 Creep out posh partners with non-stinging plant (8)
- 19 Bird from show in Germany (6)
- 20 Pot plus country (6)
- 21 Tenant not so easily evicted, for starters (6)