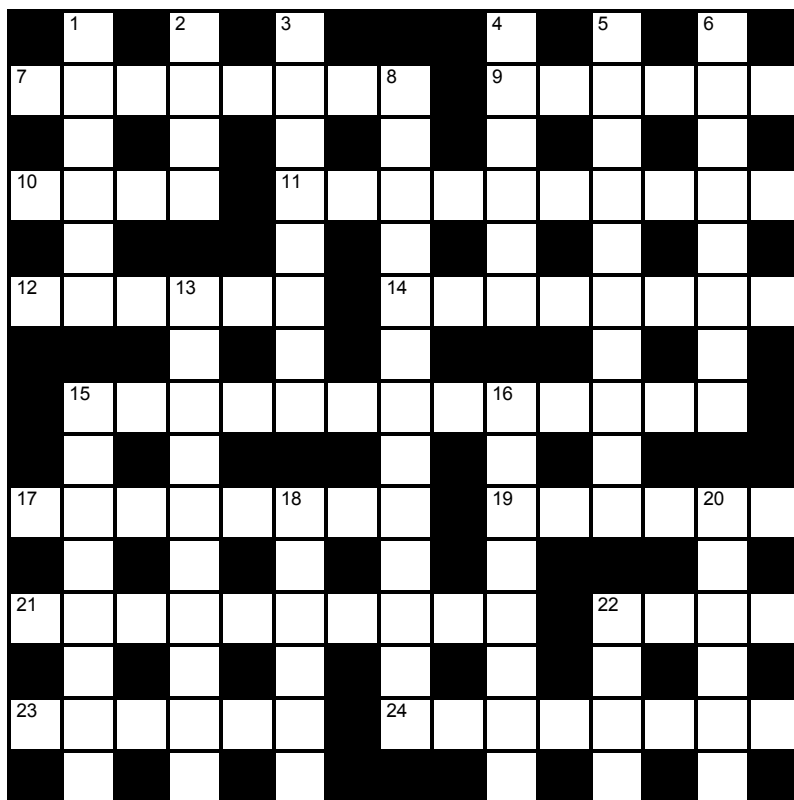


#24 by Rupert Morrish

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Across

- 7 Combat medic gets medal for those providing dressings in theatre (8)
- 9 Worn by cooks on first Sunday after short month (6)
- 10 Valley that is the source of draught beer (4)
- 11 Last night scary priest vanished, increasing the tension (10)
- 12 Third eye at home in ring (6)
- 14 Spooner (part amphibian) makes a poor traveller (4,4)
- 15 Theme music played at regents in U-turn (9,4)
- 17 Coles far improved outside (8)
- 19 No bounce, edges delivery, caught behind (6)
- 21 Capital is advantageously situated; head of government returns! (10)
- 22 To elevate stock prices (on paper), follow that man (4)
- 23 Possibly hyperbolic, succeeding the setter as definitive (6)
- 24 Gratuitous content (8)

Down

- 1 I'm a lassie about to hide the sausage (6)
- 2 Outside of island, the French do nothing (4)
- 3 Wrap up everything with sex and nonsense (8)
- 4 Delicate first thing in the morning; slept badly (6)
- 5 Mainline drug after nose collapse? (5,5)
- 6 At home, don't go out into swamp? (8)
- 8 80% of rowers frequently unconscious? (5,3,2,3)
- 13 Surrounding essential ingredients - 51, no less - in wild ginger (10)
- 15 What you do, lacking nothing fancy, is having enough (8)
- 16 Ceasefire risk (8)
- 18 Any report in suspicious case of old New Yorkers? (6)
- 20 Umpire, by habit, will say no (6)
- 22 A Republican yammerfest, initially rejected by Clinton, is beneath Congress (4)