

# Crossword #57

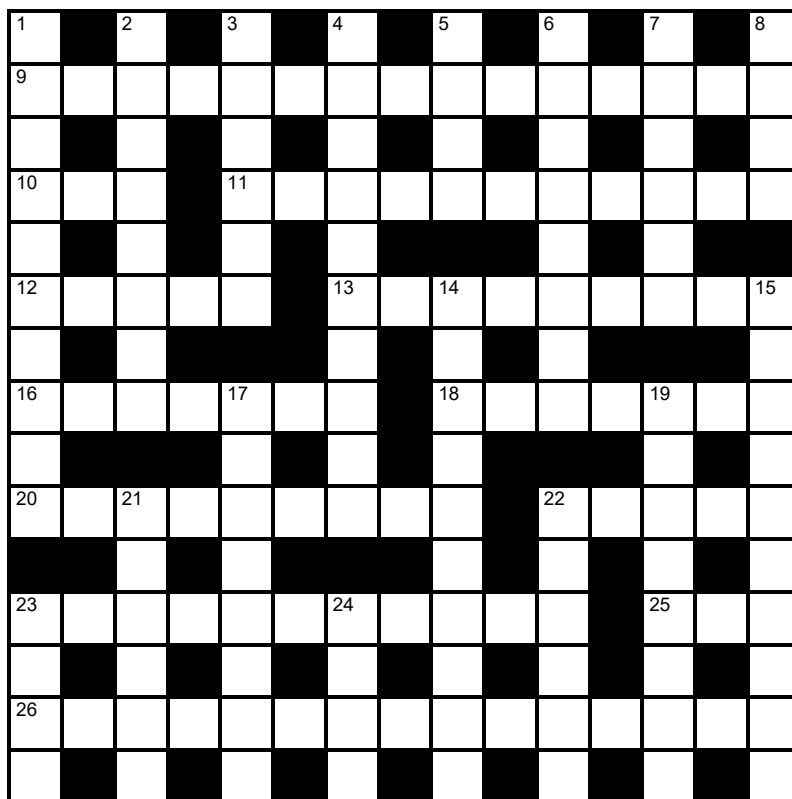
By Skirwingle

## Across

- 9 One sober geezer in need of reform given introduction to charity (8,7)
- 10 Exploit some housewives (3)
- 11 Who's behind celebrity memoir? M R James? (5-6)
- 12 A malevolent force comes back quick (5)
- 13 Reconciled soldiers finally get reparation (9)
- 16 Study a ledger's conclusion: two old pennies (7)
- 18 Instrument made of woven cat hair (7)
- 20 Implicit qualities or obvious ones (9)
- 22 What describes Cratchit – lowly employee, really kind at first (5)
- 23 Desperate enterprise of backsliding prole with horn in tatters (7,4)
- 25 Wild beast; good one from the east (3)
- 26 Novel is rash moral act after a bit of compassion's introduced (1,9,5)

## Down

- 1 Drive ram into outskirts of Grenoble with game (3-2-3-2)
- 2 Obliteration of Democrat before Conservative's removed from ballot (8)
- 3 Thin section of maritime agreement (6)
- 4 Wretchedness of French saloon (it's wrecked) (10)
- 5 Wanna hear a secret? Car club's abandoned one Volkswagen (4)
- 6 Salacious musical admits one supporting familiar insurance firm (8)
- 7 See two articles – what



Thompson did in Vegas perhaps... (6)

- 8 ...likewise a long way off taking drug (4)
- 14 Sort of table where coins and a cola are arrayed (10)
- 15 On fourth of July, husband's in military vehicle, well-fed with gratitude (10)
- 17 Improve stronghold with surrounding bank all piled up (8)
- 19 Stark colleagues annoy first of stringers to cover victory in Europe (8)
- 21 Crude second of ghosts comes out of fireplace before start of Yuletide (6)
- 22 Force millions out of business (6)
- 23 Fellow to insulate tire (4)
- 24 A, B, C, D, F or G? (4)