

17 July 2026

Puzzle it out

The Witness

Print
out and
engage
brain



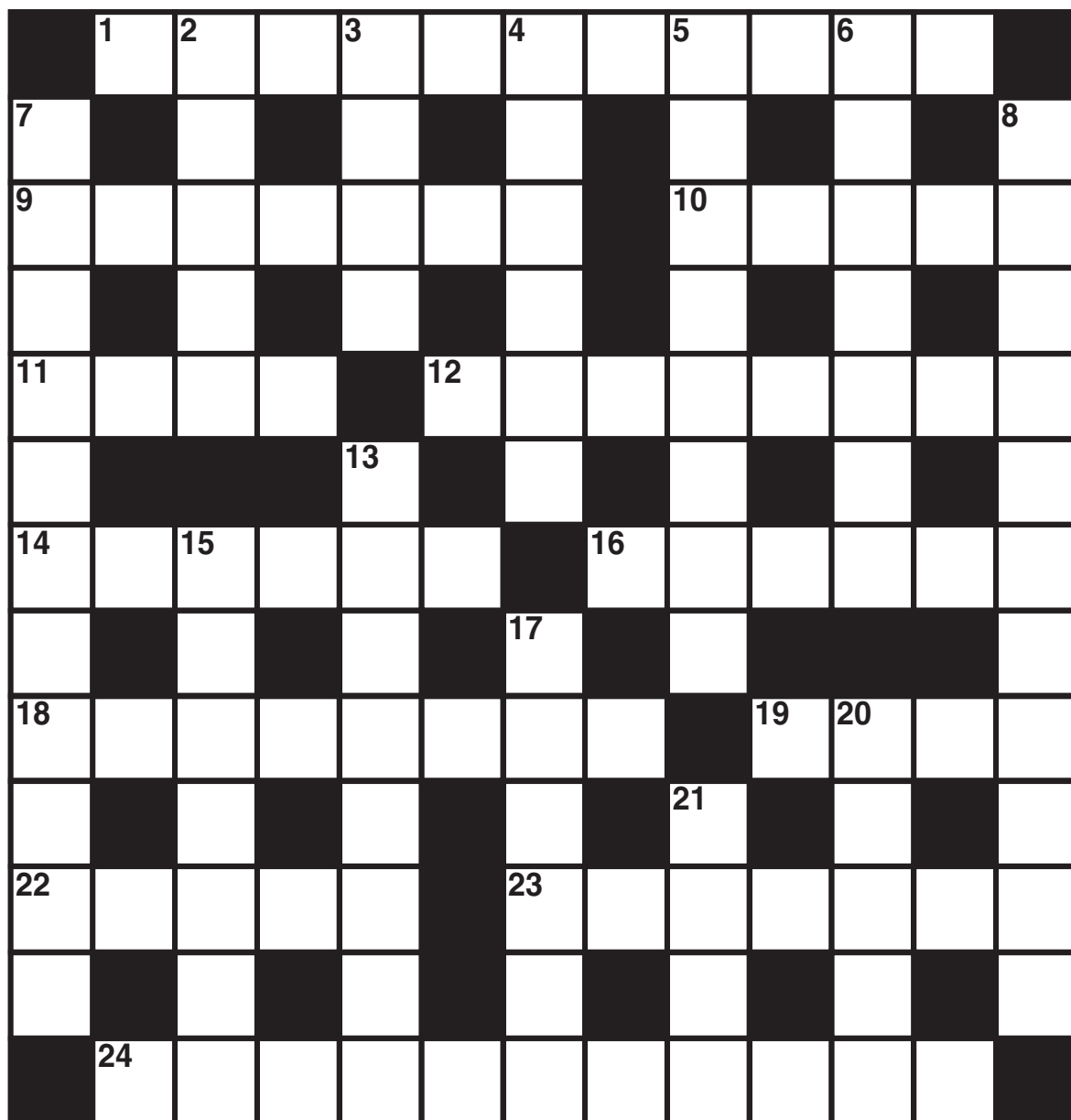
Across

- 1 Important instruction to one's financial attorney? (11)
 9 Checking growth by pinching (7)
 10 Tina set up with a new name (5)
 11 Ring New York Times? It will be expensive (4)
 12 Good looks? (8)
 14 Unruly priest in a bar (6)
 16 Noble-sounding but without issue (6)
 18 Inaccurate team sink badly (8)
 19 Second rank or front? (4)
 22 South African by birth? (5)
 23 Oil change needed after journey in Libya (7)
 24 Old timers (11)

Down

- 2 Suggest I am to practise a trade apparently (5)
 3 An elevating Kipling poem of unaffected simplicity (4)
 4 Soldier captured by enemies - old diehards (6)
 5 A sitting target for disgruntled shareholders? (8)
 6 Not one of two or three in disorder (7)
 7 Sanction of a kind men do resent (11)
 8 Capricious desire to overtake someone (7,4)
 13 Twists up, moved in front, all spread out (8)
 15 The stone antiquarians treat so cryptically (7)
 17 It's true about not having reduction in charge (6)
 20 River cut by river (5)
 21 Strikes may result when this is put out (4)

Cryptic Crossword 18207



Cryptic Solution 18206

Across: 1 Friend, 4 Spyglass, 9 Rotate, 10 Profound, 12 Ewer, 13 Stock, 14 Veil, 17 Trade returns, 20 Brilliantine, 23 Oath, 24 Acute, 25 Tabu, 28 Stay away, 29 Region, 30 Lathered, 31 Stoned.

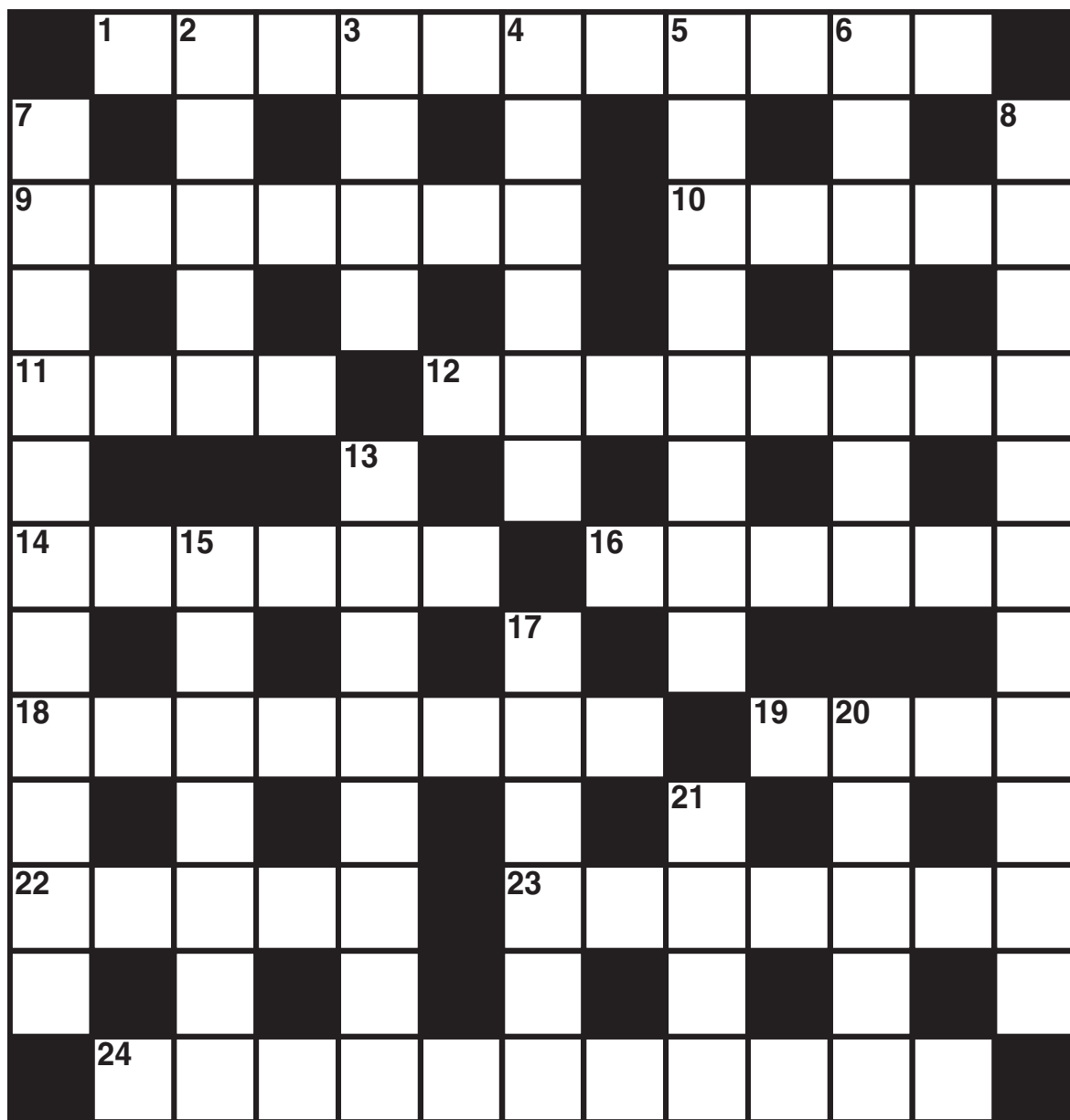
Down: 1 Forfeits, 2 In the bag, 3 Note, 5 Parachutists, 6 Gift, 7 Abused, 8 Saddle, 11 Steeplechase, 15 Pearl, 16 Inane, 18 Citation, 19 Returned, 21 Tonsil, 22 Strait, 26 Game, 27 Meet.

Across

- 1 Of the required standard (2,2,7)
 9 Deprive of courage (7)
 10 A characteristic (5)
 11 Punctilious (4)
 12 Small part (8)
 14 Optimistic (6)
 16 A Scottish dish (6)
 18 Women's underwear (8)
 19 Composer of Brandenburg Concertos (4)
 22 Make suitable for purpose (5)
 23 A culinary herb (7)
 24 Start to work briskly (3,8)

Down

- 2 Sudden overwhelming fear (5)
 3 A dreaded person (4)
 4 Small stone-fruit (6)
 5 Absolute ruler (8)
 6 Strong desire (7)
 7 A dramatic advance (7,4)
 8 Short distance (6,5)
 13 Grand (8)
 15 Serfdom (7)
 17 The sensitive plant (6)
 20 Besides (5)
 21 Ask for (4)

**10-Minute Solution 18206**

Across: 1 Hobart, 4 At length, 9 Incite, 10 Jingoism, 12 Huff, 13 Bulky, 14 Clue, 17 Earth-shaking, 20 Here and there, 23 Need, 24 Askew, 25 Clap, 28 Pass over, 29 Domain, 30 Response, 31 Freely.

Down: 1 Heighten, 2 Backfire, 3 Rite, 5 Thick-skinned, 6 Edgy, 7 Grisly, 8 Hamper, 11 Ruthlessness, 15 Cheek, 16 Unity, 18 Telltale, 19 Weaponry, 21 Sniper, 22 Versus, 26 Polo, 27 Pour.

SUDOKU

1				3	8			
		3						
	8	5	4	9		7		
				2				1
4		8	3		6	9		5
2				5				
		2		7	5	4	9	
						6		
			9	8				7

No.SS7535 Distribution: www.knightfeatures.com

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

For online tips go to sudoku.com

This is the world's most addictive numbers game. The aim is to fill the grid so that every column, every row and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 to 9. You need to reason out where to place the missing numbers by using the numbers given in the grid and a process of elimination. This is a game of logic not mathematical ability.

Yesterday's solution:

6	9	8	4	3	7	2	5	1
4	5	2	9	6	1	7	8	3
7	1	3	5	2	8	6	9	4
3	7	6	8	1	5	4	2	9
1	8	4	2	7	9	3	6	5
9	2	5	3	4	6	8	1	7
5	3	9	6	8	4	1	7	2
8	4	7	1	5	2	9	3	6
2	6	1	7	9	3	5	4	8

No.SS7534 Distribution: www.knightfeatures.com

Using the letter E somewhere in every word, can you make at least 58 words of four letters or more out of these letters? At least one word will have all the letters.
No proper names.

E	H	I	S	M
	N	A	P	S

Yesterday's answer: Ahem, Haem, Hiss, Huss, Mash, Mashie, Mesh, Messiah, Mush, Quash, Sash, Sham, Shame, Shea, Shim, Smash, Squash, Squeamish, Squish

SIMON SHUKER'S
CODE-CRACKER

5463

Each number in our Code-Cracker grid represents a different letter of the alphabet. For example, today 22 represents G so fill in G every time the figure 22 appears. You have two letters in the control grid to start you off. Enter them in the appropriate squares in the main grid and solve the starter word. Fill in other squares in the main and control grids with the found letters and look for the next word. Follow the word trail through the puzzle to its completion.

1	2	3		4	5	6		7	8	9	10	11	1	14
3		7				3		8		3		3	2	15
12	3	7	10		10	13	3	14	2	15	10	16	3	16
10		5		3		2		2		16		2	4	17
6	5	11	17	5	12	10	15	7	10			3	5	18
		3		11		16				4		15	6	19
18	3	7	19	3	12		3	7	20	5	2	6	7	20
5		21				3		4		14			8	21
22			3	23	2	7	2	8	15	3	16	8	9	22
5		17		11		11		24		15		25	10	23
12	8	12	12	2	24	8	24		19	2	12	8	11	24
3		8		3		26				26		15	12	25
11	10	7	5	11		26	2	24		6	2	10	13	26

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A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

Solution to
the previous
Code-Cracker:

1	S	2	T	3	F	4	A	5	H	6	E	7	I	8	M	9	N	10	R	11	U	12	O	13	G
14	L	15	Y	16	C	17	V	18	D	19	W	20	B	21	Z	22	P	23	Q	24	J	25	K	26	X