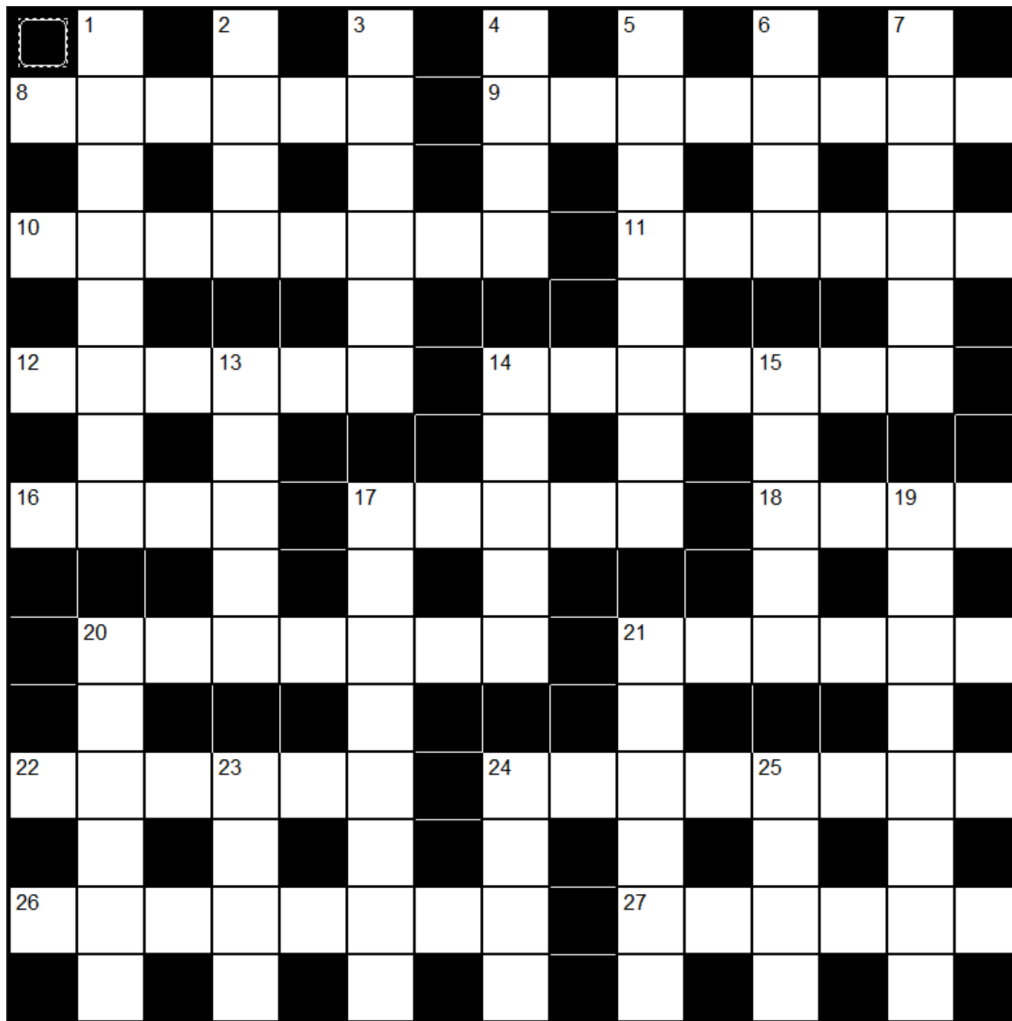


Crossword by Invicta for York Sloggers & Betters 2026



Across

- 8/22 What the crew of the *Argo* want for covering the *Chrysomalios*? (6,6)
 9 A bill to bring things up to the same standard will suffice (8)
 10 Old flame out to frustrate. That's rough (8)
 11 Overtly strict boundaries to exercises (6)
 12 Traders satisfied purchasing boat full of live cargo (6)
 14 Desserts are served at the back end of the weekend, I'm told (7)
 16 A noble thing when there's no one heartless around (4)
 17/21/4d Where people used to hang around in York? (5,6,4)
 18 Swear when cereal is hot (4)
 20 Pretty box for a dunce's cap worn by an idiot (7)
 21 See 17a
 22 See 8a
 24 Ruler gives order for bullfighter to be sacked around November (8)
 26 Transport PC AArden in this (5,3)
 27 Nearly all, nearly all, nearly (6)

Down

- 1 Shopping street in York where Fats goes crazy (8)
 2 Trimmed privet border (4)
 3 To a degree, painter goes south, not east (2,4)
 4 See 17a
 5 Doctors cure none in denial (8)
 6 Yorkshire banker will slowly bleed from the ear (4)
 7 Somewhere to sit and tarry awhile (6)
 13 Kevin's in no good shape to begin college (5)
 14 Jaspreet takes a wild ride! (5)
 15 Get this and we can be friends (5)
 17 Small amount passed during Spooner's constipated episode! (8)
 19 How would Henry Higgins prefer 6d to be pronounced? You wouldn't bet against it (3,5)
 20 "King takes Mistress" ... we're in a dark place now! (6)
 21 Two boys back to back across the Ouse (6)
 23 Our intentions are for post to shift south (4)
 24 Catalan oil worker buried in vanadium iron (4)
 25 They hold weapons (4)