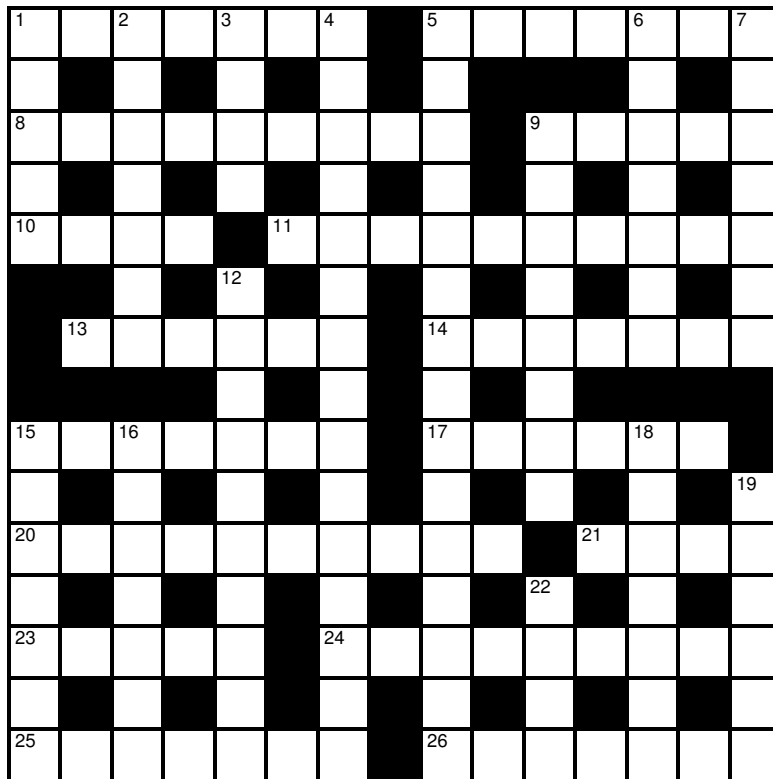


Winter 06 crossword – by Pinkie



Across

- 1** Initially laughs up politicians hesitation – don't spend it all at once! (4,3)
- 5** Coin from 11ac kept by Vincent - I'm euro-friendly (7)
- 8** Reduce Countdown conundrum! (3,4,2)
- 9** Tory leader backs penniless band (5)
- 10** Desires Princess to quit Mickey Mouse corporation and make a comeback (4)
- 11** In old times, battered gays beyond 15 ac. (6,4)
- 13** Eastern missile comes to nothing but coin from 11ac. (6)
- 14** In Brick Lane or Whitechapel - ate Ned's fricassee (4,3)
- 15** Yearn for a try - just once! (4,3)
- 17** Targeted last queen on old English penny (6)
- 20** Finalise a transaction of near perfection - swap Indian and Austrian heads. (5,1,4)
- 21** Current coin's question of identity (4)

- 23** One ordering the French into a tree (5)
- 24** No Ulster politician at posh college acts like this (2,7)
- 25** Start again in tennis with reticence (7)
- 26** Weep during space exercise - and scramble! (7)

Down

- 1** Courageously loses head and finds a dip (5)
- 2** It's said that quiet social workers are deviants. (7)
- 3** Not the fastest fruit, I hear ... (4)
- 4** Surprisingly, employer of donor makes a nice little earner (5,3,3,4)
- 5** Powerful woman in US housing with Marvin asleep first, then Tim. (11,4)
- 6** One sufficiently dead to quarantine (7)
- 7** Old flame sat naked (7)
- 9** Exchequer reforms are rusty (8)
- 12** Reason for mistake by charitable bishop or ... (5,5)
- 15** ... if cruel, crooked Devil! (7)
- 16** Stuck to the bottom of pan, find loads of chow mein (7)
- 18** Similarly eye-opening queen and friend (7)
- 19** Persuasive message to turn off around dead end (6)
- 22** Long record, I see (4)