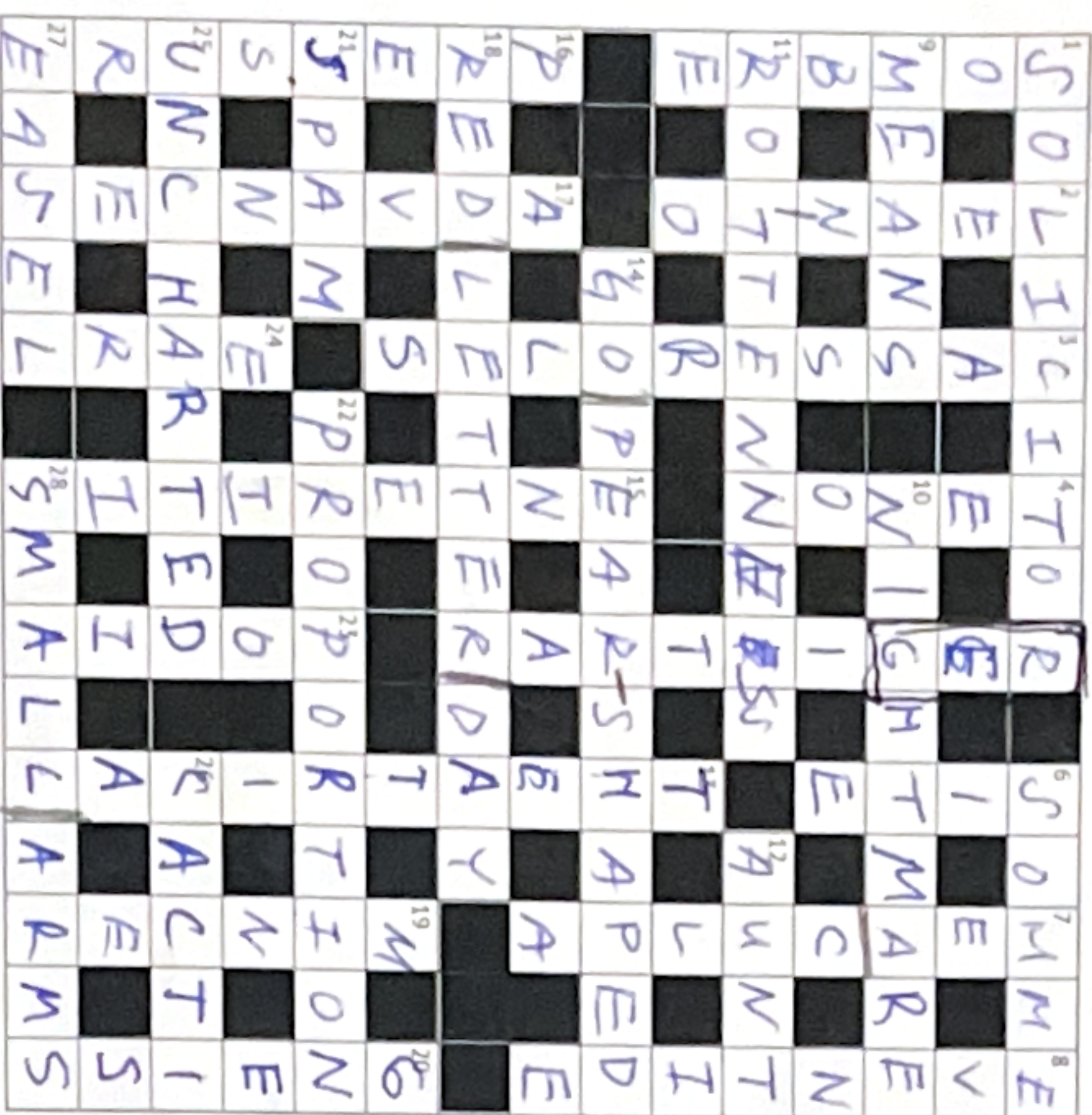


Friday, April 25, 2025

Cryptic • by DS



ACROSS

- 1 Marsupial's turn to secure legal advocate (9)
 6 Division of them, mostly returned from battle (5)
 9 Frame answer so that it carries weight (11)
 10 German hit out after harrowing trial (9)
 11 Spoiling cryptic non-setters (10)
 12 Headed off hollow-eyed relative (4)
 14 Republican listener quietly copied how to come to grief (2,4-6)
 18 Recited spoken message Doris made for important date (3,6,3)
 21 Resort male's unwanted mail (4)
 22 Relationship support turned on trio (10)
 25 Awfully rude chant never troubled hit parade (9)
 26 Desert dwellers caught one going outside the law (5)
 27 Tripod left behind facility (5)
 28 Personal defence of southern shopping centre wings (5,4)

DOWN

- 1 Doleful doctor probed abscess (6)
 2 Left at one, abandoning shed (4-2)
 3 Stews over a scoreless game (10)
 4 Saw tonne wasted (5)
 5 Official art, sir, remains beneath Mombassa (9)
 6 Audio-visual spot (4)
 7 A clue map making is all my own fault (3,5)
 8 Tied and tied knots at the end of the day (8)
 13 Cattle hair sprinkled over the top (10)
 15 Lodge object to go into one's visceral complaint (9)
 16 Trump, say, certain moral force (8)
 17 Plug JD's propositions (8)
 19 Chopper caught in digger (6)
 20 Rock appealing to an audience (6)
 23 Set up humanitarian operation in stages (5)
 24 Premature but inconclusive count (4)

~ 2hr