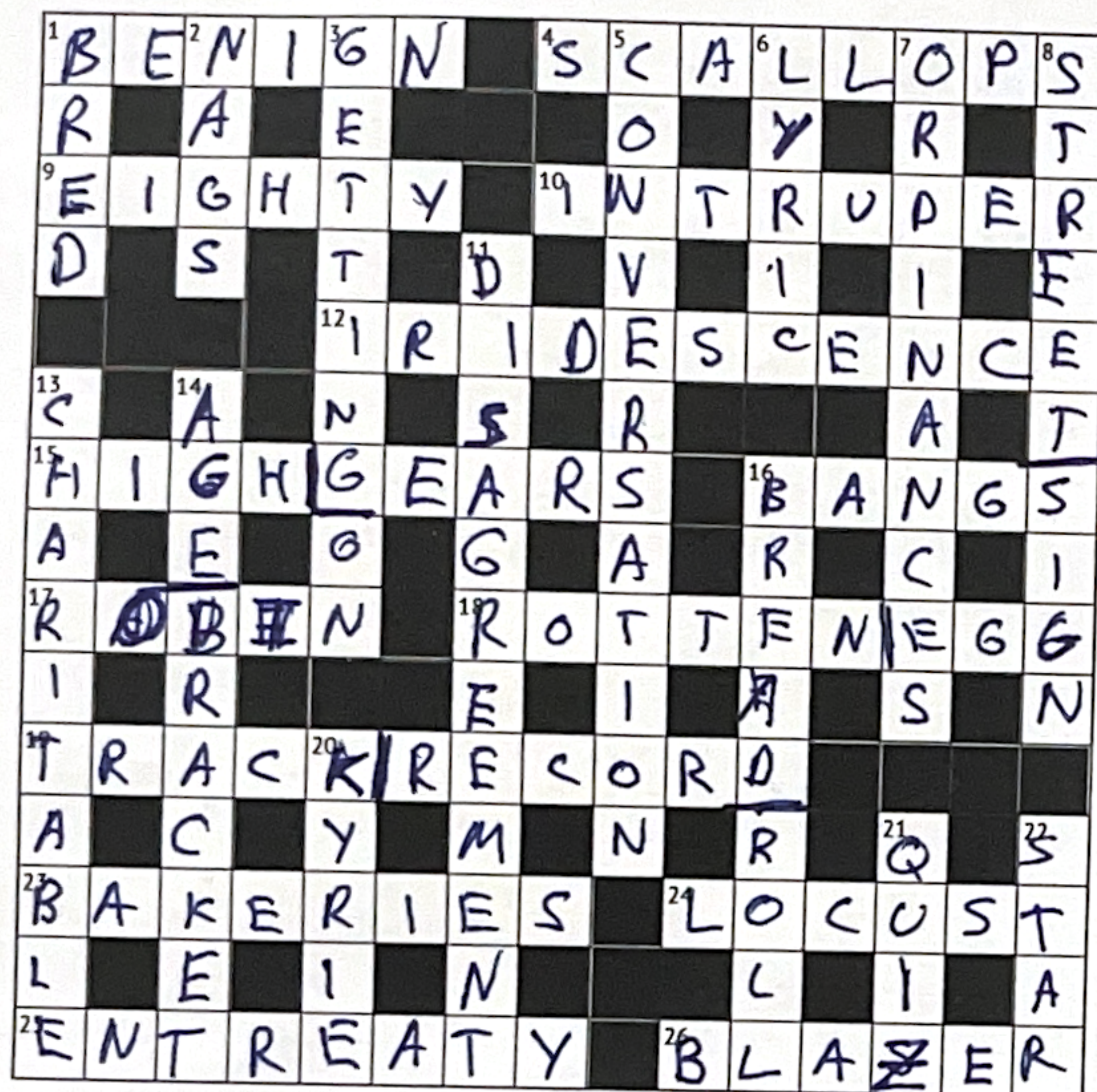


75 mins

Wednesday, December 25, 2024

Cryptic • by RK



ACROSS

- ~~1~~ Harmless binge, fresh and new (6)
~~4~~ Son phones outside work for seafood (8)
~~8~~ Head off significant number (6)
~~10~~ At home last night took on less polite trespasser (8)
~~12~~ New scenic ride: note rainbow effect (11)
 15 Spooner's bloke picks up fourth and fifth when driving (4,5)
~~16~~ Disallow netballer's fringe (5)
~~17~~ Nick seen with fashionable bird (5)
~~18~~ It stinks to be the last one in? (6,3)
~~19~~ Song cut from previous performance (5,6)
~~23~~ Boy with sign outside knew odd places to buy 16-down (8)
~~24~~ Insect confused, biting copper (6)
 → ~~25~~ Removes one from total then puts in a request (8)
~~26~~ Relax in brown jacket (6)

DOWN

FUND

- ~~1~~ Raised money, as discussed (4)
~~2~~ Pestors horses (4)
~~3~~ Old and managing (7,2)
~~6~~ Chat at boring redevelopment (12)
~~8~~ Sample early Richards' line from song (5)
~~11~~ Edicts consider an amendment (10)
~~13~~ Wild tiger sent one way, perhaps (6,4)
 11 Heard to criticise a few blokes in address dispute (12)
~~15~~ Generous Rachel a bit unpredictable (10)
~~14~~ South Coast town put up with noise from 21 to 25 year olds, perhaps (3,7)
~~16~~ Sadly, bald role encompasses first removing bun (5,4)
~~20~~ Minogue swaps hands for Latin prayer (5)
~~21~~ Look to deflect initial question (4)
~~22~~ Nearly kick off big name (4)