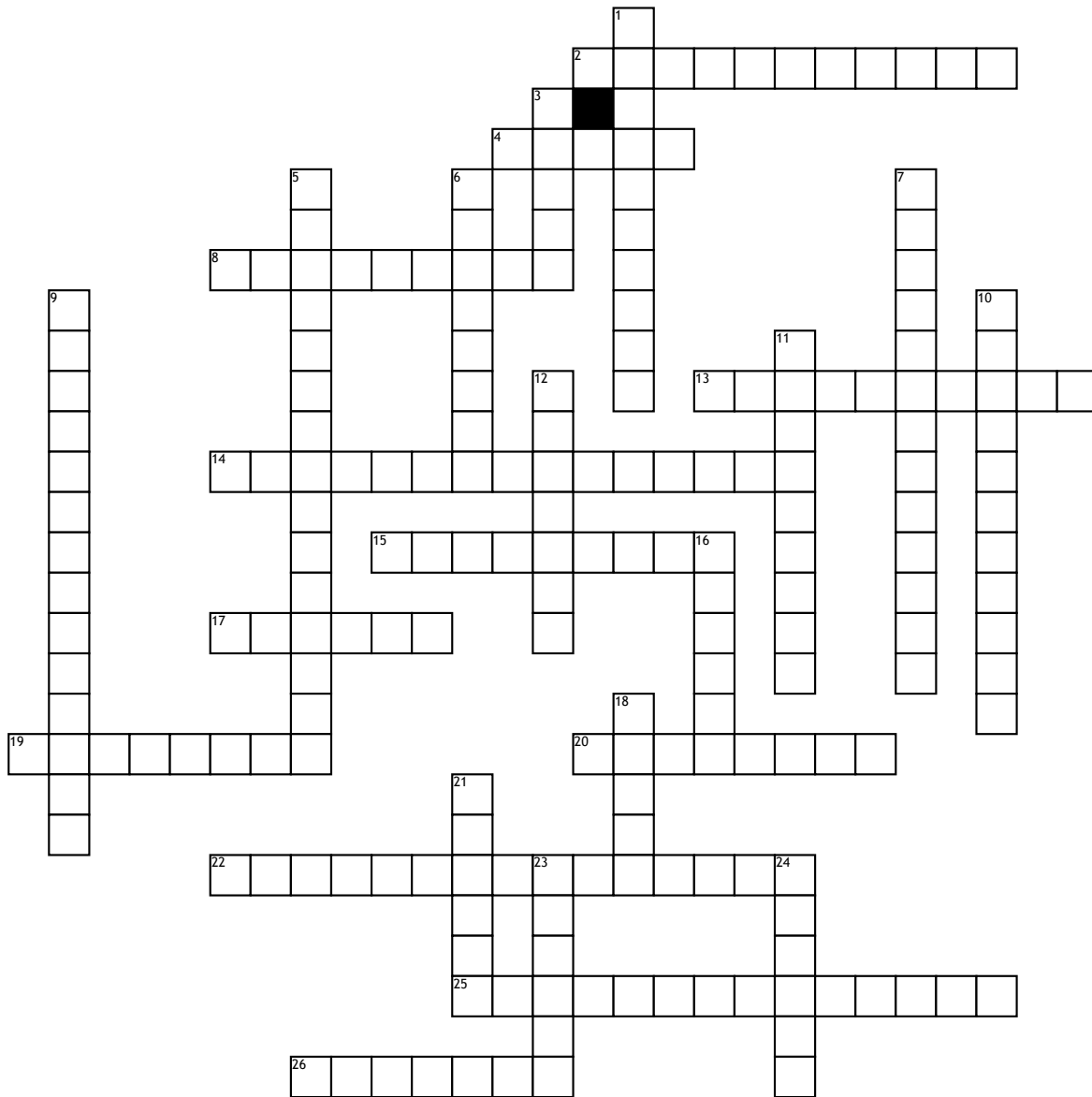


National League Cryptic



Across

2. Demolition when back four replaced by agent without me here (4,7)
 4. Play them hoping for score draw (5)
 8. Spireites back (if replaced that is) shaken, getting the blues (9)
 13. They play with giant melons (10)
 14. They're facing tie with guardian between the poles (9,6)
 15. Posh tutor fouled up here (9)
 17. Team in second is not Southern (6)
 19. Initial choice between Yeovil and Keynsham route home for some (4,4)

20. Disguise Leyton had another team in (8)
 22. 18a kick with haphazard charm: relegation initially avoided (7,8)
 25. Northerners have shilling, 1p and reportedly extra with settlement (10, 4)
 26. Do they have 1000 fans? (7)

Down

1. Allegedly brandish rock or club (10)
 3. Team fixes ties (5)
 5. Women find strength as team - this one? (9,6)
 6. Are they here for defeats? Partly! (8)

7. Beginning one team (7,6)
 9. Want time in relegated side (10,4)
 10. They reported tie's score unknown (5,6)
 11. Waterlogged surface on the road...to Wembley? Almost there! (5,4)
 12. Hasty - he bungled here (3,4)
 16. Team held by those Chester rascals (6)
 18. Reduced part of Home Counties team (5)
 21. Early visitors to 4a? (6)
 23. Relatives of 1d wingers (6)
 24. Team from Stroud thrashed (6)