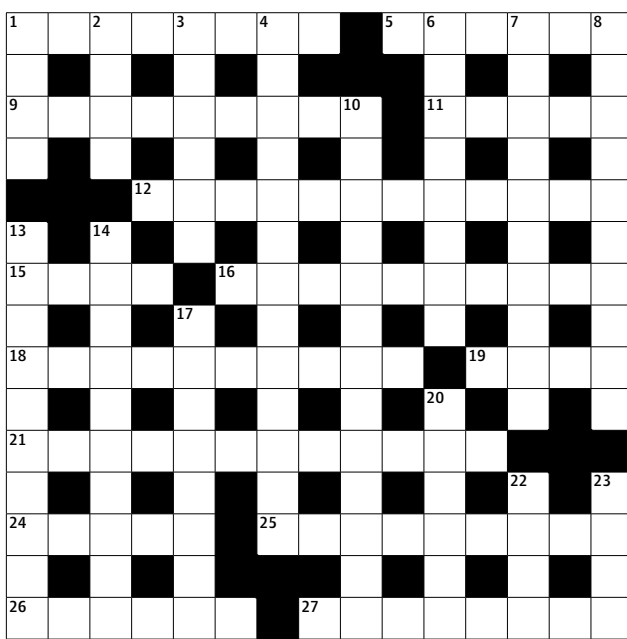


## Guardian cryptic crossword



No 24,762 set by Rufus

### Across

- 1** Work back-to-back on location across the way (8)  
**5** Get rid of damaged spindle lacking central point (6)  
**9** Nazis were armed with these (9)  
**11** Evidence of spiritual strength (5)  
**12** Chops and wine can make an appetising snack (4,8)  
**15** Press club (4)  
**16** Stress follows before making a claim (10)  
**18** An afternoon trip from France? (3,7)  
**19** French priest sought in Lourdes (4)  
**21** If it works, it helps the rest (8,4)  
**24** Retired don is still in bed (3,2)  
**25** Reading between the lines (4,5)  
**26** Fears loss of opener to slips (6)  
**27** Down here fast changes are required (8)

### Down

- 1** Ring road goes round a kiln (4)  
**2** Top dog, say (4)  
**3** Upsets new arrangements (3-3)

- 4** Caught fighting? (5,8)  
**6** Being saucy, I am put outside the room (8)  
**7** Support it over debts, being well disposed (10)  
**8** Sinister operator (4-6)  
**10** Racing tipster provides latest information for betters (8,5)  
**13** Top class has intelligence and intuition (5,5)  
**14** O Valentine! (4,6)  
**17** Note smoker in pub is a music man (8)  
**20** Minor shows discourtesy (6)  
**22** Prepare to explode – or not to explode (4)  
**23** They may be placed, but are best misplaced (4)

Winners of prize puzzle 24,755

T	O	P	S	A	I	L	D	E	P	O	S	I	T	
O	O	T	E	I	E	U	I							
F	I	R	S	T	G	R	E	E	D	Y	P	I	G	
U	T	E	E	S	A	P	E							
P	E	R	S	O	N	S	I	N	G	U	L	A	R	
C	R	T	D	R	O	Y	S							
O	C	H	E		B	A	R	G	R	A	P	H		
W	O	O	L	E	Y	N	A							
F	O	U	R	S	T	A	R		O	D	E	R		
E	S	T	N	S	U	D	K							
T	H	E	M	I	N	D	B	O	G	G	L	E	S	
E	B	N	M	U	A	M	W							
R	E	L	E	A	S	I	N	G	N	E	A	T	H	
I	U	T	N	H	D	N	E							
A	C	E	T	O	N	E		T	W	A	D	D	L	E