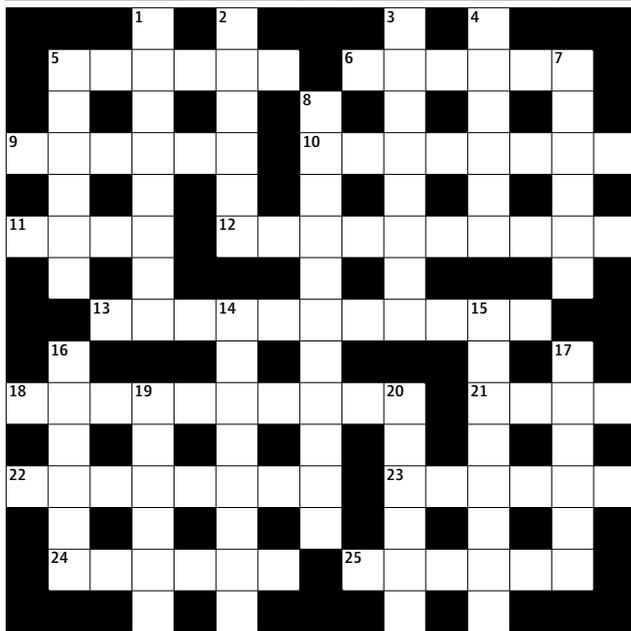


Guardian cryptic crossword



No 24,944 set by Bonxie

Across

- 5** A canoe in place of a sub? (6)
6 Plenty of singers express disgust (6)
9 Red state brought to a premature end (6)
10 Sleep with nothing on, having eaten two slices of lemon cake (8)
11 Pet bird has wings clipped (4)
12 Play about the universe (10)
13 Holes picked in closing remarks about French leader (11)
18 Inched near fresh hold-up (10)
21 John King (Butchers) (4)
22 Subdues small children, but not one's own (8)
23 Aide sends back herb pasty (6)
24 Second in command to step down (6)
25 Get a medal to appear in space movies (6)

Down

- 1** Press heavily upon silver armour, for example (8)
2 Paper turning to the Left after split (6)
3 Foot spa with a neat switch (8)
4 Opening a shop? (6)
5 Bash on the head raised a lump (6)
7 Bird ring – one number missing (6)
8 Anchorman is rewriting an outdated item (11)
14 Leave coat beside lake (8)
15 Medium wash is a main source of pollution (3,5)
16 Bird lacking tail gets very cold (6)
17 Stand at school? One shows hesitation (6)
19 Measure record found in sack (6)
20 Recruit them by subterfuge (6)

Solution No. 24,943

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