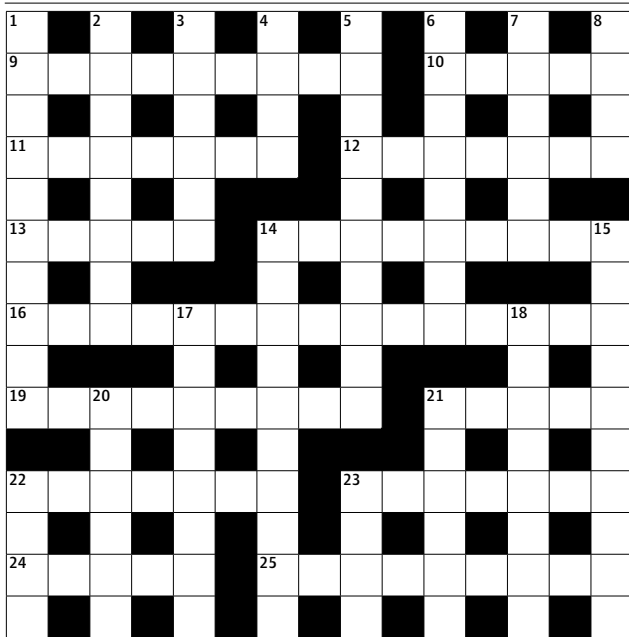


# Guardian cryptic crossword



No 24,972 set by Enigmatist

## Across

- 9** Energy shown by report of Tellytubby writer in battle scene (2,7)  
**10,21** Undertaking to take possession by force (10)  
**11** Choppers cut (7)  
**12** The first of Enigmatist's loathsome solvers give him this? (4,3)  
**13** Supply items not on the starter menu? (5)  
**14** See 17  
**16** Spaced-out agent of operations? (5,10)  
**19** Arm wrapped in wire could be scaled (9)  
**21** See 10  
**22,23down** Magic formula for tax shift? (5,2,4)  
**23** Derek's loud local description of Trig's from the Oracle? (7)  
**24** VIP's heaving (5)  
**25** Nuts enter into custody (9)

## Down

- 1** Write notes for limited costume design augmented by special ties (3,2,5)  
**2** Buff will pick up Spooner's cost to employer (4,4)  
**3** See 17

- 4** Paid for pasture (4)  
**5** Insure sign? (10)  
**6** Porter, maybe, one carrying wife's disease (8)  
**7** So spell the end of lead-free gas (6)  
**8** Dairy product, in a nutshell, from which to swat fly (4)  
**14** See 17  
**15** A little pretence and no mistake (3,7)  
**17,14across,3,14** Mission of "Virgin Soldiers" or 10 21, with famous 16? (2,6,2,5,2,3,3,4,6)  
**18** Green measure of what sounds like a see-saw? (5,3)  
**20** I'll achieve excitement – should such an eventuality arise (2,4)  
**21** Fence whiter today than yesterday (6)  
**22** Group that dares to win hospital frame (4)  
**23** See 22 across

Solution No. 24,971

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