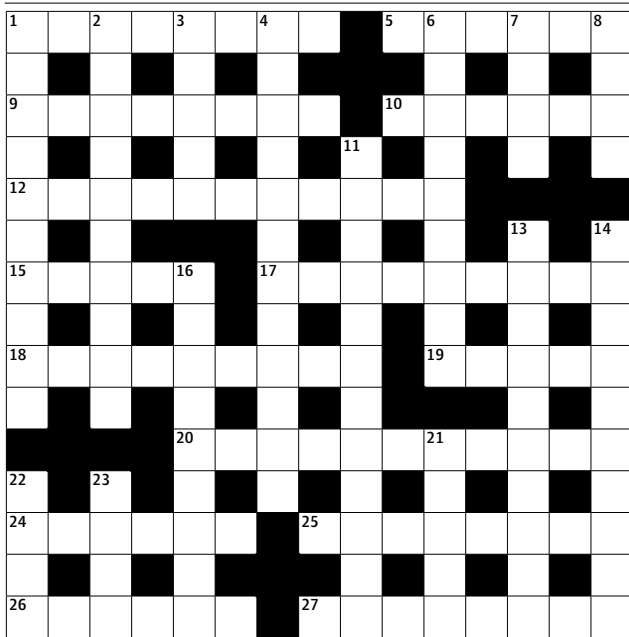


Guardian cryptic crossword



No 24,978 set by Paul

Across

- 1 No overtaking, perhaps, as horseboxes like to hog lanes in the end (4,4)
- 5 Burn nearly 20 in front of church (6)
- 9 Starter of bass in stuff to consume as seafood (4,4)
- 10 See 3
- 12 Angelina's man's packed in – could he have been indoctrinated? (11)
- 15 Tax man after fool (5)
- 17 Cold figure returning to grab last of winter smalls, individually (9)
- 18 Bit with corset strained from childbirth (9)
- 19 Winter sportsman, English in mini? (5)
- 20 How babes made erotic porn with a bum (11)
- 24 A load of wine on credit, which is necked? (6)
- 25 Short day needed to collect pound, among one copper – or more? (8)
- 26 Sound of two swallows parting (3-3)
- 27 Dentist finally going in to identify pain that's most sharp (8)

Down

- 1 Low point to shake that booty! (4-6)
- 2 Dreadful stain baby's left by tap – there's no baby-wetter! (10)

- 3,10 Observation of mating bull in market as judge of talent (5,6)
- 4 Playwright after amateur actor in relative, no straight man (6,6)
- 6 Clear middle note, as piano is to pianoforte? (9)
- 7 One can't take off part of cylinder head (4)
- 8 See 23
- 11 Current problem, revolution? (5,7)
- 13 Give jellied eels in rice (10)
- 14 A cord with net designed to be tough (10)
- 16 Bloody woman holding heads of people and lowering beneath river, perfect (9)
- 21 Fruit tree polled containing pea, say (5)
- 22 Insultingly, one declining to earn a crust? (4)
- 23,8 Bar opening trap (8)

Solution No. 24,977

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