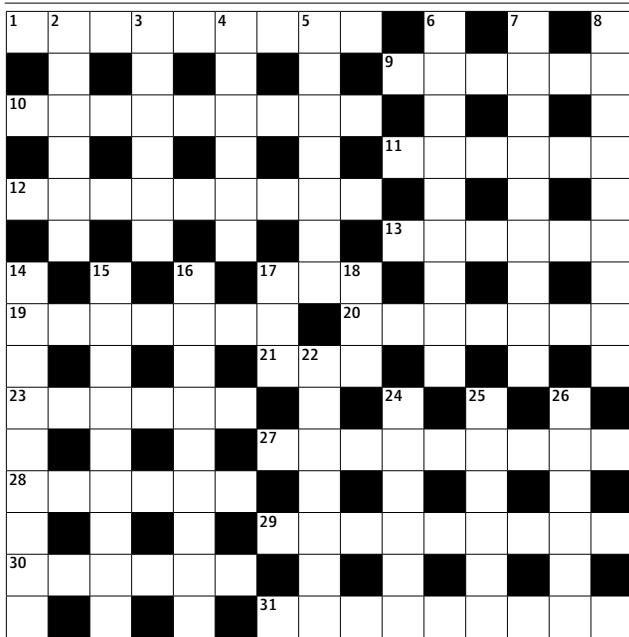


Guardian cryptic crossword



No 24,984 set by Araucaria

Across

- 1** United cell is ready for insertion into broken toe (9)
9,30 Pioneering ecological book is back, fast bound (6,6)
10,11 Accommodation for still needy borrower is clue to 13 (9,6)
12 Adaptable – now may we leave the course? (4-5)
13,31 Overseer jab? No caretter needed (6,9)
17,21 Place old soldier on Thames (6)
19 Russian girl with stories of French comedian (7)
20 Spite is private, they say (7)
21 See 17
23,31 Arrival of fools, perhaps, with trendy aquatic plant (6)
27 Cultural concerns turn to shot in the arm for the army (9)
28,29 Bacon and eggs etc as clue to RAF basket (6,9)
30 See 9
31 See 13

Down

- 2** Nodding to agent general inside (6)
3 See 24

- 4,14** Clue for cat arises from what escalates? (6,9)
5 Back seats worth their weight in gold? (7)
6 Painter left without setter or soldier (9)
7 Petty authoritarianism to be doled out in the morning (9)
8 Legal representation curtailed by Conservative (9)
14 See 4
15 Right light on ship? (9)
16 Prophetic Persian heard in front of Greek (3-6)
17,18 God's attempt at domestic room (6)
22 Start considering the gut (7)
24,3 Square clue for a padre? (6,6)
25 Dot's follower, worthy and sweet (6)
26 Without master, criminal society's company a great disappointment (6)

Solution No. 24,983

