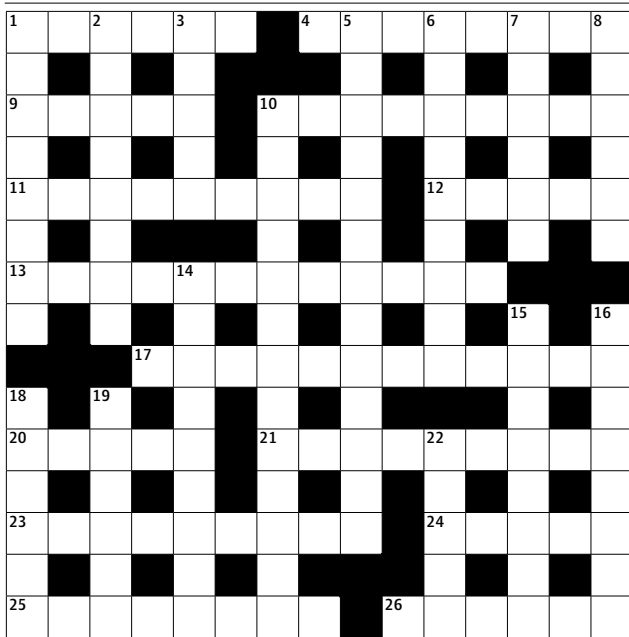


# Guardian cryptic crossword



No 25,057 set by Arachne

## Across

- 1 Bash head of poor female rodent (6)
- 4 Chap set about pursuing diamonds in frozen waste (3,5)
- 9 Obliging husband adopted suitable position (5)
- 10 Tory in Lab disguise? (4,5)
- 11 Buffet California with fair wind from the east (9)
- 12 Pitchers were smashed to third base (5)
- 13 "Do it!" I snapped, angry and frustrated (12)
- 17 Tory-Liberal, not vice versa (12)
- 20 Single European Union (5)
- 21 The state of being mistrusted a bit (9)
- 23 Group of thugs from Africa and Japan knock off good dope and tobacco (9)
- 24 Tory-Liberal [ibid] quota for Defence (5)
- 25 Nick phone to make tweet? (4,4)
- 26 Setback as son lost honour (6)
- 3 First Lady's books reveal affair (5)
- 5 Extraordinary rendition case is ready for transportation (13)
- 6 Bear genus could be broken down into these groups (9)
- 7 With receding hair, he's finally long in the tooth, outwardly at least (6)
- 8 Bird infection (6)
- 10 Suffering of reptile and feline? (13)
- 14 Email Copt about ancient Egyptian dynasty (9)
- 15 Shrink is repressed by smaller version of self (8)
- 16 GMT doesn't start in the interim! (8)
- 18 Leader of Pakistani peacekeepers gets shot in the province (6)
- 19 She transfixes Middlesex town (6)
- 22 Angry pirates are circling! (5)

## Down

- 1 Info on ordinary policemen's ultimate role in ethnic cleansing (8)
- 2 If German is supporting overthrow of EU policy he won't use violence (8)

Solution No. 25,056

