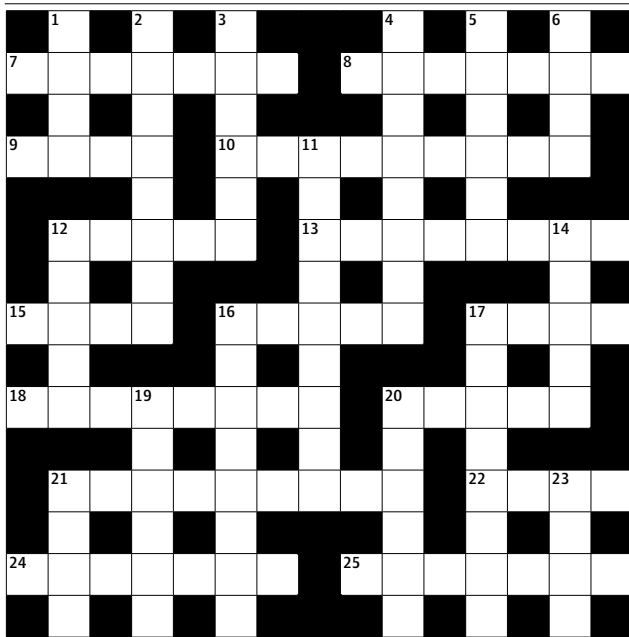


Guardian cryptic crossword



No 25,066 set by Rufus

Across

- 7 Refrained from supporting a tedious man (7)
- 8 Gun company occupied by receiver (7)
- 9 Company project (4)
- 10 Ship's follower hung about an old sailor (9)
- 12 Get an order for the middleman (5)
- 13 Rates ski resort as "one star" (8)
- 15 Carefully analyse Kipling's work, in a way (4)
- 16 It gives height in flight (5)
- 17 Pound in silver received in church (4)
- 18 Bizarre article about posh operatic lady (8)
- 20 Gets rid of depression (5)
- 21 Bond fired at random, contrary to orders (9)
- 22 Pained expression when top of finger is cut off (4)
- 24 Artist's bow tie? (7)
- 25 Helped with the dishes but forgot part (5,2)

- 5 Swallow or dove circling over ancient city (6)
- 6 A bit of an eye for a girl (4)
- 11 Top military reportedly outlawed musicians (5,4)
- 12 Last word to the French about to expire (5)
- 14 Stories that may be written down – or up (5)
- 16 Sailor climbs ropes – these? (8)
- 17 Collected and wrote notes (8)
- 19 Called about religious instruction, being enthusiastic (6)
- 20 They take food off plates when rinsed off (6)
- 21 Give a signal and slow down (4)
- 23 The essential point for lawbreakers, say (4)

Winners of prize puzzle 25,059

Down

- 1 List of biblical books held by academy (4)
- 2 Only males go in at such a meeting (8)
- 3 This was not played when we were at school (6)
- 4 A tyrant will appear the day Riot Act is reformed (8)

