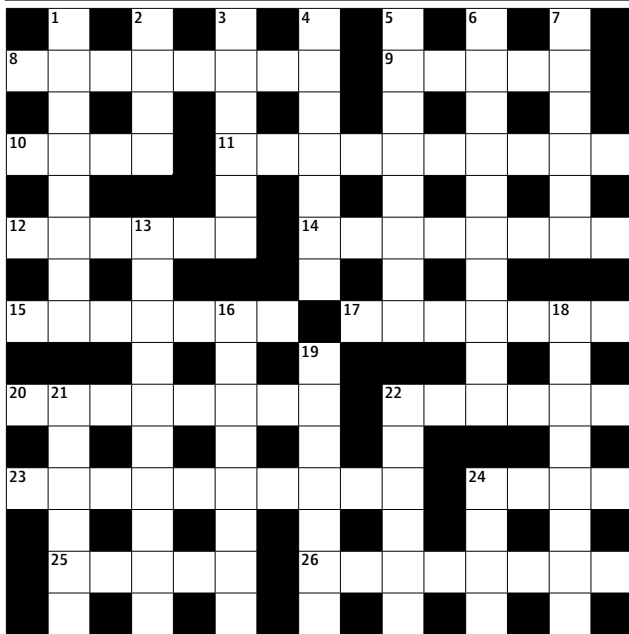


# Guardian cryptic crossword



No 25,118 set by Paul

## Across

- 8 Virtuous card game? (8)
- 9 Party removed from boredom, shuffled for card game (5)
- 10 Eccentric tail in blue fish (4)
- 11 Coin “river horse”, perhaps, for this large beast? (10)
- 12 In fish, I had a fishy time? (6)
- 14 All there is in you reversed by part of song (8)
- 15 Books alongside maps almost leading to a US city (7)
- 17 Card game in which lady regularly entering suit withdrawing, for the most part (3,4)
- 20 Card game with bone (not one), behind bone in arrangement of those bones? (8)
- 22 Spades, dark – or not? (6)
- 23 Card game opposite, going back to break forward (5,5)
- 24 Go to pieces in card game (4)
- 25 Fish in newspaper (5)
- 26,24down Two card games from “Animal Farm” and “Star Wars” for “The Man from UNCLE” (8,4)

## Down

- 1 Phone people about capital, getting to grips with a card game (8)

- 2 Jokers so delirious? (4)
- 3 Terribly angry about Labour leader, get knotted! (6)
- 4 Card game from spelling “quiz”, encapsulating its misspelling? (7)
- 5 Of those settling in, zero left standing in fuel (8)
- 6 From the south, identifies 26’s isle, welcoming in a sailor (4,6)
- 7 Love’s about love, moving to the heart? (6)
- 13 Design card game for entrance, once (10)
- 16 Quiet man requesting first of tankards, don’t gulp it all up? (8)
- 18 It’s twice more difficult (without energy) to carry a copier (8)
- 19 Looking to understand card (7)
- 21 Knock what the discerning vermin wouldn’t buy? (3-3)
- 22 Entrance to heaven cuts skyward for angel (6)
- 24 See 26

Solution No. 25,117

