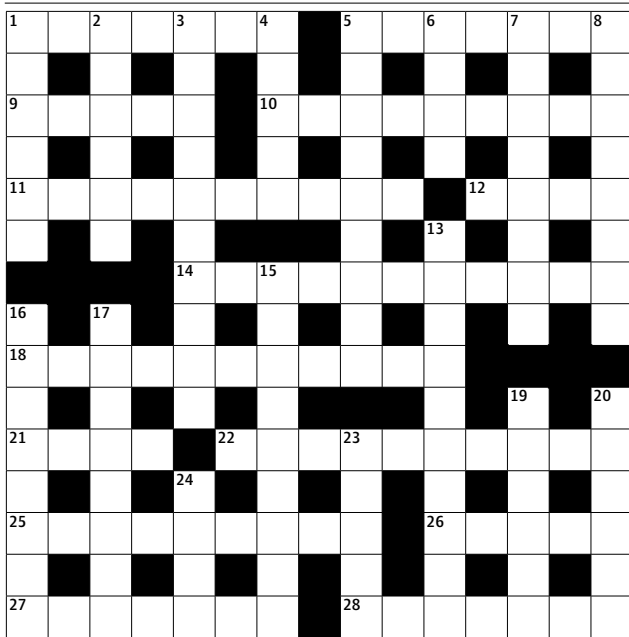


# Guardian cryptic crossword



No 25,127 set by Paul

## Across

- 1 Is posh granny after location of wine vessel? (7)
- 5 European city's hot, hot favourite during tour, regularly backed (7)
- 9,7 Practically employed, having to 27? (2,3,8)
- 10 Official marker getting moist about an exam (4,5)
- 11 Key result of a 26 being dropped 9 7, might you say? (1,4,5)
- 12 A grange almost seen in the distance (4)
- 14 They would fight, though comrades refused? (5,6)
- 18 Clever clogs with his brains in his trousers? (6-5)
- 21 Bit of welcome news, or indication of misfortune (4)
- 22 Of help to solver, this may be indicatory (10)
- 25 Passing oxygen repeatedly in circulation, this more harmful? (6,3)
- 26 One may be upright, but one's hammered? (5)
- 27 Swim round source of great river, having to draw on one's reserves (3,4)
- 28 Island from the east with heartless tale to tell (7)

## Down

- 1 Formal accessory with sparkler about right, close to jacket (6)
- 2 Very great stories shouldn't be? (6)
- 3 Attire for an athlete wasn't a step out of place (10)
- 4 Over two speaking of attack, more than one spoke (5)
- 5 As virgin soil turned on field, finally ploughed up (9)
- 6 Bloom loomed (4)
- 7 See 9
- 8 Garments, inside which underwear for the big nob (3,5)
- 13 Sweet to spit on goalkeeper? (10)
- 15 Rearing dog gets to bite Englishman abroad, clearing away mess (7,2)
- 16 E's beaten and restrained in court (8)
- 17,24 The regional news's third broadcast is local (8,4)
- 19 Smoke overhead? (6)
- 20 Indian city where setter keeps optimistic, uplifted (6)
- 23 Curious time to get up, he knocked many down (5)
- 24 See 17

## Solution No. 25,126

