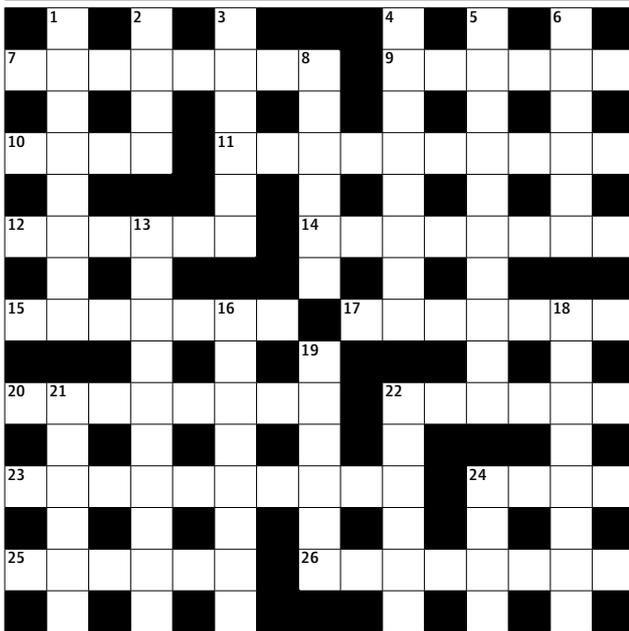


Guardian cryptic crossword



No 25,131 set by Puck

The first five correct entries drawn each week win Guardian Style and A Clue to our Lives, worth £23.98.

Entries to: The Guardian Crossword No 25,131, P.O. Box 6603, Birmingham, B26 3PR, or Fax to 0121-742 1313 by first post on Friday. Solution and winners in the Guardian on Monday 11. October.

Across

- 7 Doctor returned to university in this bustling 15 19 (8)
 9 Short summer holiday near to 15 19 (6)
 10 Politician, one fleeing African country (4)
 11 Prince taking a princess to the cleaners? (10)
 12 Run and scream, if not the best hot meal (6)
 14 Complaint if hotter still? No harm done (3,5)
 15,17 Irish Sea's tide belatedly starting to go out? It's going out too much, sickeningly (7,7)
 20 Claim proudly to be topping 15 19 (8)
 22 Broken limb's no good for energetic activity (6)
 23 Native that is sounding rough (10)
 24 Those leading horse into bar, south side in Edinburgh (4)
 25 Puzzle if puppet replaces head of admin in HQ (6)
 26 Wrongdoing by Henry? Reputation initially given up for victory in Europe (8)

Down

- 1 Somehow reconciles company outing with reason for missing report? (8)
 2 Female leaving behind the West Country (4)

- 3 How's that for a show of disapproval? (6)
 4 Broadcast will help 15 19 (8)
 5 Writer first to review eg Eliot's "The Waste Land" (10)
 6 Soldier having contracted 17 affecting calves? Not here (6)
 8,19 Where you'd hope to get better hotels, rather stupidly (6,6)
 13 Source of 17 found in 5, upper respiratory infection turning up in affected 19 (10)
 16 Long-distance travellers in 8 19 with setter, after docking (8)
 18 Season to get too much sun in 15 19 (8)
 19 See 8
 21 Riot starting, then nun broke royal nose? (6)
 22 Leader of crew on rising road somewhere in Europe (6)
 24 Partake of lunch, oven-ready, in 15 19 (4)

Solution No. 25,130

