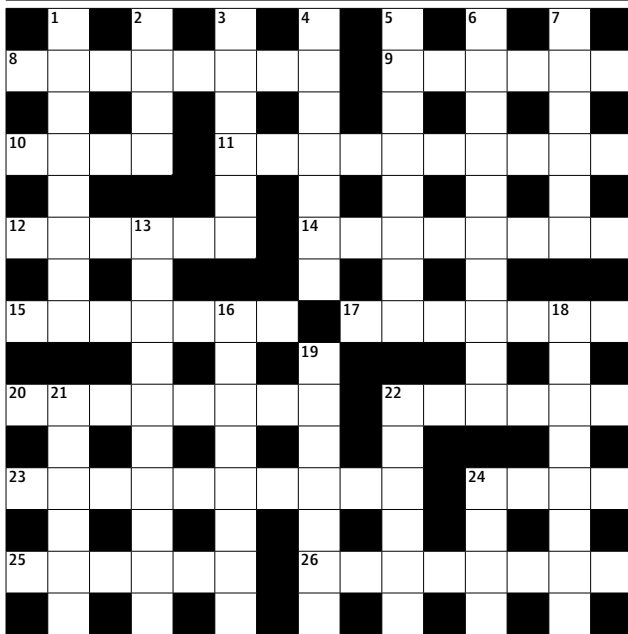


Guardian cryptic crossword



No 25,149 set by Biggles

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 25,149, 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 1 November.

Across

- 8 Feline and ovine creatures with number prefixed in mathematical chart (8)
 9 Good number absorbing book about safety device (3,3)
 10 Reluctant to jettison origin of profanity (4)
 11 Non-PC brat set to caper about? (6,4)
 12 Closer to making comeback, played again without drug (6)
 14 One's taken in by spell – a politician needs this (8)
 15 Bunk off, keeping distance, to engage in dangerous sport (7)
 17 Import from 9, a genetically modified crop (7)
 20 Dotty way of prophesying (very Scottish) about Arab country and its leader (8)
 22 Situation for sculpture caused standing row (6)
 23 Sitting on fence, alleged drunkard said to have switched on inside light (10)
 24 The president's wing (4)
 25 That's the lot! Home and drink a round! (2,4)
 26 Coral & Co breaking an oath about Australia (8)

Down

- 1 Git, a plonker, seller of pop (4,4)
 2 Fish without a lake (4)

- 3 Elizabeth playing herself as "The Obliterator" (6)
 4 Welcome figure finally: 1002? (7)
 5 Post-expressionist not brave? (8)
 6 Mad Italian love claiming rights, as unreasonable (10)
 7 Ally in war, killer (6)
 13 What "The Good Shepherd" gave new temp in De Niro characterisation? (10)
 16 Very appropriate location for Ali G after one? (8)
 18 Pardon me, misguidedly mentioning star (4-4)
 19 Jaundiced Charlie modelled in clay (7)
 21 In pursuit of the old elected government: Conservative, at last, on top (6)
 22 Holding a trivial matter up, Olympics' chief makes howler (6)
 24 Old cobbler has no blue dresses (4)

Solution No. 25,148

E	X	A	M	P	L	E	S	I	D	E	A	R	M
C	I	I	N	P	E	D	E						
L	A	N	Y	A	R	D	I	N	C	O	M	E	R
I	T	N	E	K	K	I	I						
P	A	R	S	O	N	A	G	E	C	A	R	E	T
S	E												
E	V	E	N	S	I	N	S	T	A	L	L	E	D
L	E	T	H	A	R	G	I	C	R	A	S	P	S
I	R	P											
T	H	I	N	E	T	R	E	N	C	H	A	N	T
O	P	G	U	T	H	V	T						
T	R	O	T	O	U	T							
E	L	A	O	O	L	S	E						
S	W	I	F	T	E	R	N	E	I	T	H	E	R