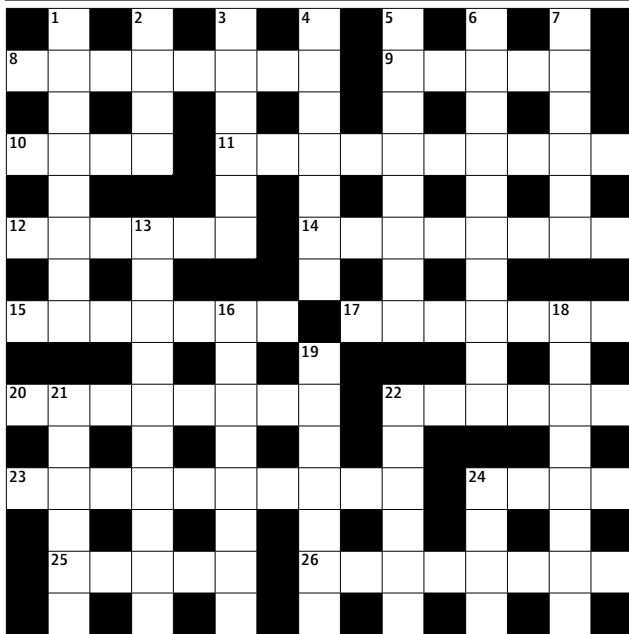


Guardian cryptic crossword



No 25,219 set by Brendan

Across

- 8 Old king putting drink back in lists of options (8)
- 9 Make king take rook, perhaps, then knight (5)
- 10 Hide from vicious king (4)
- 11 King of kings, many said foolishly, put on a little weight (10)
- 12,22 King's names for religious reformer (6,6)
- 14 King at Hereford, in part to collect harvest (8)
- 15 Some of our kings and English duke died in conflicts (7)
- 17 Court champion dined with king repeatedly (7)
- 20 King, for example, and brave jester (4,4)
- 22 See 12
- 23 King who used rackets to secure a score of titles (6,4)
- 24 Friend that puts king in hopeless position (4)
- 25 Rabble without love for cruel king (5)
- 26 Celebrate about rise in king's payment to serving man (8)

Down

- 1 Crewman holding all the cards? Just one person's (4,4)

- 2 Cut when rewritten (4)
- 3 Primate includes a bishop in blessing (6)
- 4 As I say, somehow crossing river in ancient kingdom (7)
- 5 Figure in plane caught in old muddle (8)
- 6 Spy setter wandering in shopping area (4,6)
- 7 Cover using precautionary phrase, in a word (6)
- 13 Representatives who should become less narrow-minded (10)
- 16 Awful deeds and situations offering no way out (4-4)
- 18 Sport needing extra time in later part of day (8)
- 19 Inauspicious jingle? (7)
- 21 Land being consumed by fire (6)
- 22 Pulse is fast – over one-fifty (6)
- 24 Part of Somalia or other country in Africa (4)

Solution No. 25,218

