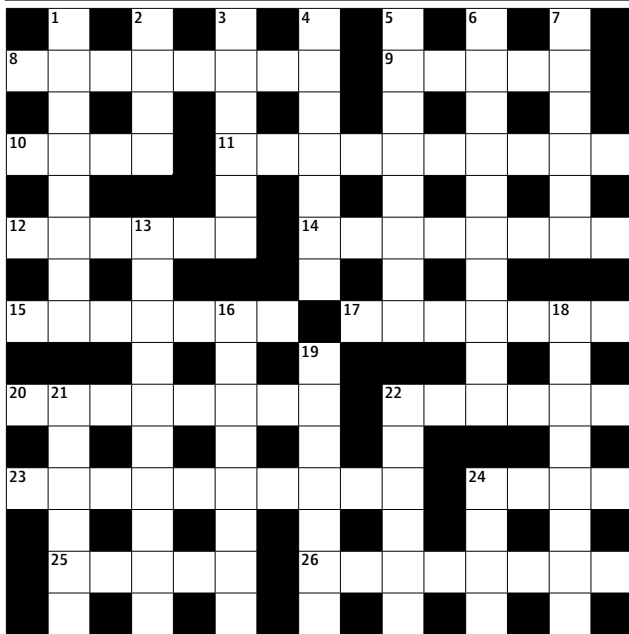


Guardian cryptic crossword



No 25,231 set by Quantum

Across

- 8 Staff officer's initial impressions: "I am spy possibly in conferences" (8)
- 9 When first of primroses appears in a covering of seeds? (5)
- 10 Medicine man, two-thirds a fake (4)
- 11 Patronise, deceive and go down (10)
- 12 Bandage was altered on article (6)
- 14 Period at end of this punishment? (8)
- 15 Unit working in the Seychelles and New York in effective cooperation with others (7)
- 17 Aid must flow to this sporting venue (7)
- 20 Main part of a resort (8)
- 22 Celebrity getting substantial cover in court (6)
- 23 Real and patchy – crudely typical! (10)
- 24 Gave a lesson reportedly on "tense" (4)
- 25 University position but not for the rest (5)
- 26 One giving conventional treatment cut into a thin piece (8)

Down

- 1 Believe in the proposed route, say, in passing (2,3,3)
- 2 Plans turn up in unsolicited mail (4)

- 3 Originally, young person's chess mainly played in the mind (6)
- 4 Spot, a bit like a mountain lake (7)
- 5 Cob surprising hunt with zeal (8)
- 6 Following a break one follows the smell (7,3)
- 7 In charge, following most of prison's medical unit (6)
- 13 One less than this number and one does not get to bat (7,3)
- 16 Gone to ground but this is kind and helpful (4,4)
- 18 Maybe buy it – about a pound – mainly to show popularity (8)
- 19 A dentist might, as a temporary measure (7)
- 21 Improve Scripture in National Curriculum during "English hour" (6)
- 22 Cheekily made delivery, we hear, and left unknown (6)
- 24 Kind face (4)

Solution No. 25,230

