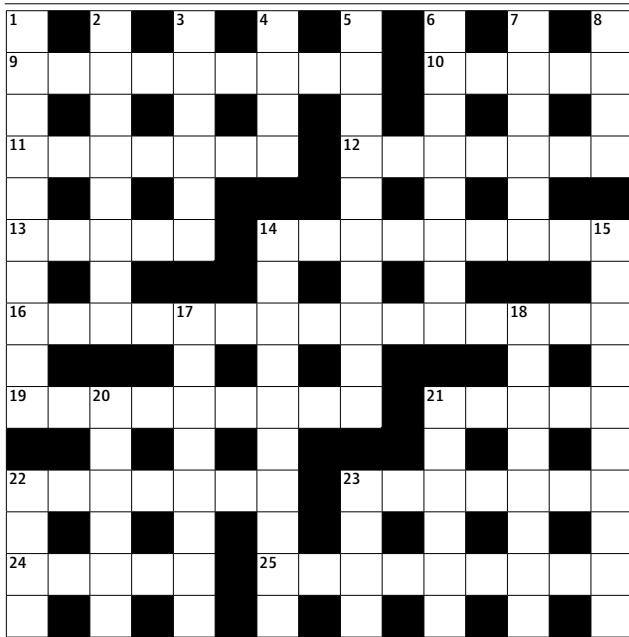


# Guardian cryptic crossword



No 25,233 set by Rufus

## Across

- 9 Risk coming by river (9)
- 10 Poetically inferior place in Wales (5)
- 11 Taking offence (7)
- 12 Cure those people without charge (7)
- 13 It may be in the bank or in circulation (5)
- 14 Beat friend hollow and scoffed (9)
- 16 His Christmas present was one of three (8,7)
- 19 Unusually enamoured by one's appearance (9)
- 21 Its happy ending comes as a relief (5)
- 22 Upset glue, lid needs to be put on first (7)
- 23 He is trained in horse jumping (7)
- 24 Use force for peace, say (5)
- 25 Seen by footballer shown the red card? Well, no! (3,6)

- 6 Imply port swallowed is of a lower standard (8)
- 7 Parents separated by an ascending waterway (6)
- 8 Hail a boat (4)
- 14 Men on phone exchange will be a rarity (10)
- 15 No problem in Baker Street (10)
- 17 I came up to brew tea and dry up (8)
- 18 Machinist's work rate poor (8)
- 20 Clean up on the favourite, darling! (6)
- 21 A sleeping partner who was robbed of his capital assets (6)
- 22 Cattle given firm directions (4)
- 23 Present capacity (4)

Winners of prize puzzle 25,226

## Down

- 1 Livelihood of a cleaner, supported by money (5,5)
- 2 Master lost for words (8)
- 3 Certainly in on the act (6)
- 4 Tax on goods and service (4)
- 5 Field dressing of growing importance (10)

