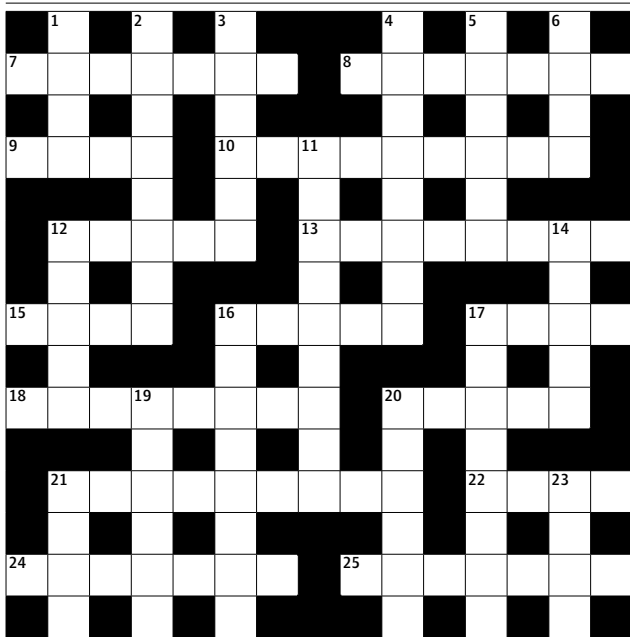


Guardian cryptic crossword



No 25,238 set by Brummie

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 25,238, 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 14 February.

Ten solutions have something in common; their clues lack a definition.

Across

- 7 Northerner's age – or diet – has no bounds (7)
 8 Say Evelyn said “Hank” (7)
 9,17 Having no master from the start, pro swallows back drink at far edge of green (8)
 10 Small sketch of Tom and Spike? (9)
 12 See 15
 13 Lean right and put out bust (8)
 15,12 Charlie, 1960s-style girl: underwear accepted (9)
 16 Miss going east of eastern tip of Shandong (5)
 17 See 9
 18 Gave credit for publicity about writer (8)
 20 Familiar state, yet unfamiliar (5)
 21 Dog hides tail after phosphorous feed (9)
 22 Say Bill is rejected (4)
 24 Flanks of inferior ante-lope (7)
 25 Performing is welcomed by the Bee Gees, family-wise (7)

Down

- 1 Strange date ditched (4)
 2 A friend he lost (I lost), executed naturally (8)
 3 No time to drink up (6)
 4 Doctor Richard Leakey's fossil hunters famously did in 1984 (8)
 5 Broadcast about sports body star (6)
 6 As carboxylic acid is lacy, top to bottom (4)
 11 Out of bed, possibly dreadlocked, so dressed down (9)
 12 Chablis ousts tea on Sunday! (5)
 14 Catherine the Sixth (unknown) (5)
 16 “Side Wall” has old Hollywood heartthrob teamed with Close (5,3)
 17 But beach bum is a water softener (4,4)
 19 Act like a pig, covering flipping lot with eggs (6)
 20 Big fish – both sides consumed by chief (6)
 21 Gin tipped over? (4)
 23 Kelly, one of many passed on? (4)

Solution No. 25,237

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