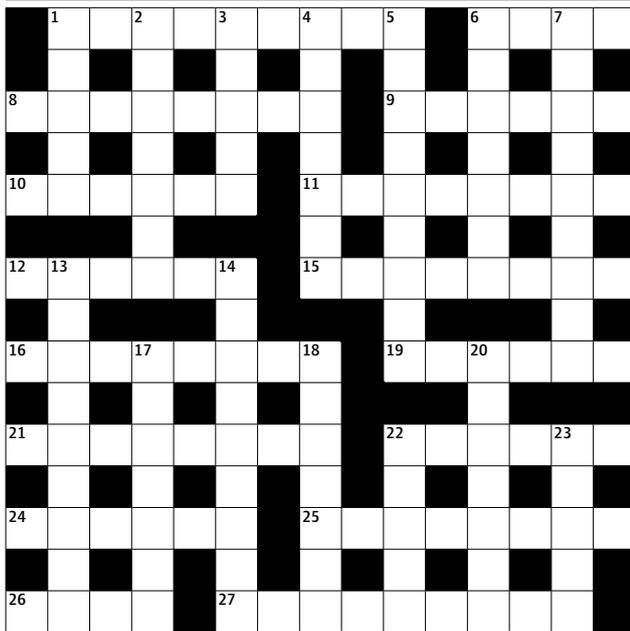


Guardian cryptic crossword



No 25,298 set by Paul

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 25,298, 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 25 April.

Across

- 1 A country taking a boy from the East, he being in exile (5,4)
 6 Part of London that's extremely sexy, detailed (4)
 8 Attractive catch in wizard (8)
 9 See 13
 10 New chapter in For Whom The Bell Tolls, taken from there (6)
 11 Showing example, shortly, round back of design (8)
 12 Naughty males after daughter, finding girl (6)
 15 Hands holding nothing, nothing with both hands? These passed for support (4,4)
 16 Screwed up as rubbish, in the middle I went – here! (5,3)
 19 A painter passing northern city in the East (6)
 21 Swinger missing overture from opera after 1 down 3 5 (8)
 22 Ship in a bottle, perhaps? (6)
 24 See 22
 25 26 a modest residence (8)
 26 Advertisement as filler (4)
 27 Mineral which may bend teaspoons (9)

Down

- 1,3,5 7's faith threatened distressed 12 (5,2,3,9)
 2 No good stuffing pancakes without topping, these on the inside (7)

3 See 1

- 4 Drink fizzy cola – what might bubbles do? (7)
 5 See 1
 6 Caught in shoe, might this trip dignitary up? (7)
 7 Confine wife in the clutches of merry author ... (9)
 13,9 ... whose distant source of milk left empty, filling rotten molars (1,8,2,4)
 14 Lithium compound soluble, potentially damaging (9)
 17 Organisational process, it's rising and falling (7)
 18 One entering African country with different capital – finding another? (7)
 20 Work at first of suspects, say, up for interrogating people (7)
 22,24 Sculpture perhaps alternatively titled 13 9? (5,2,4)
 23 Writer leaves girl to run away with another (5)

Solution No. 25,297

