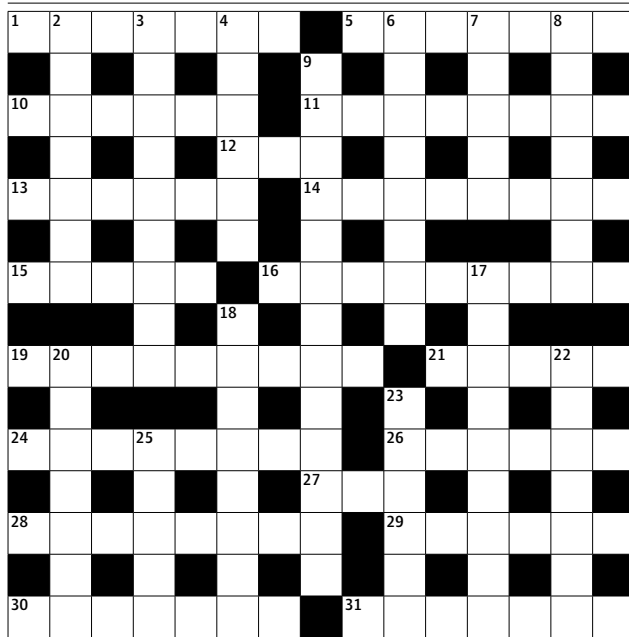


# Guardian cryptic crossword



No 25,388 set by Biggles

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 25,388, 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 8 August.

## Across

- 1,30 Battered maid regretting this? (7,7)
- 5 Country folk written in song (7)
- 10 Live wire's second season of Sex and the City (6)
- 11 Sick of true hope getting dashed (2,2,4)
- 12,31,29,19,21 Now I'd suppose union with a handicraft artist ... maybe beats writing? (2,1,7,6,1,8,5)
- 13 Select man from which thousands escape – it's easy! (6)
- 14 Paris's affluent society dropping E's in part of London (8)
- 15 Falls back dropping painter once more (5)
- 16 "Testes" in translation, producing "sweet sins" (9)
- 19 See 12
- 21 See 12
- 24  $E=mc^2$ , say, as one struggling with it comprehends (8)
- 26 Taline's uneasy settlement (6)
- 27 Miss The Tempest's lost ending? (3)
- 28 Is it played by Paul and me, perhaps, suppressing a little giggle on the road? (4,4)
- 29 See 12
- 30 See 1
- 31 See 12

## Down

- 2 It's a bit late in the day to be getting things straight (7)
- 3 Director's pitch opposing gainsayer (9)
- 4 Public information spot (6)
- 6 Timid yet fresh, keeping it up (8)
- 7 Town in West is Wells, viewed from the ground? (5)
- 8 Seconds out! Batty gran-nies baggable! (2,5)
- 9 A Ugandan Girl Guide's last out with dedicated minder (8,5)
- 17 Introduction to shirt-lifter holding hands with the chosen few (5,4)
- 18 Like corsair, it's lacking in honour and honesty (8)
- 20 Quite uneasy over City of Angels short (7)
- 22 Bum cleft pinched by Marxist revolutionary (9)
- 23 Source of wise words from Rodney's bruv highly acidic (6)
- 25 Snake topping its opposite (5)

## Solution No. 25,387

