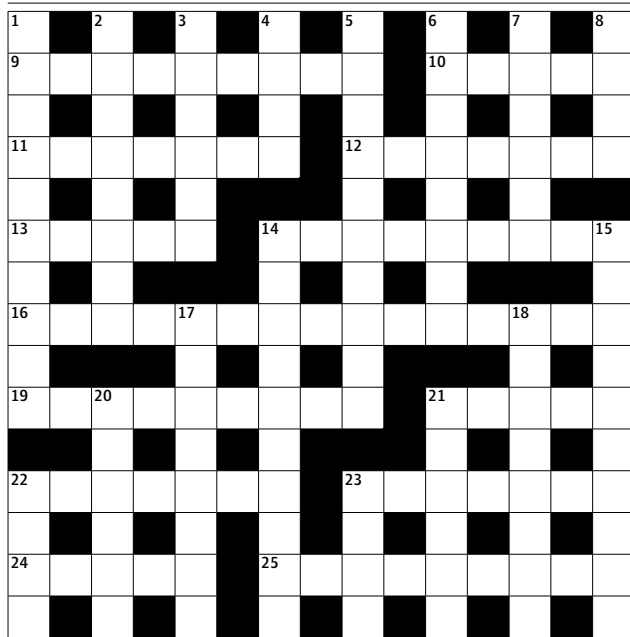


Guardian cryptic crossword



No 25,394 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 25,394, 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 15 August.

Note added 16 August 2011. The clue for 22 across has been changed, as the original solution SPINACH clashed with the one for 20 down.

Across

- 9 Noted great support returning by the dawning of 16 7, finally! (9)
- 10 Game of betrothal, marriage (5)
- 11 9's moderate pro missing both headers (7)
- 12 Free credit attached to weapons, non-starter (7)
- 13 Outspoken claims addressed initially in book (5)
- 14 Cut gains for East London area (9)
- 16,7 High above London, Britain hasn't one ugly side (8,3,4,6)
- 19 Conductor, in waiting, took the bus, perhaps (9)
- 21 Doctor on call seeking overnight accommodation (5)
- 22 Bear shot, bizarrely, stealing computer (7)
- 23 9's effortlessly moving poem recalled (7)
- 24 State money reserve (5)
- 25 See 8

Down

- 1 Order to keep incredibly brave leaders from last season in sight (10)
- 2 Explorer among scorers Charles and Giacomo? (8)
- 3 9's hot in the shade (6)
- 4 Declare a clergyman should stand (4)
- 5 Proclaim queen should keep a tunic that's ornate (10)
- 6 What the ref did as the game went ahead? (8)
- 7 See 16
- 8,25 Workman learns about old footballer (4,9)
- 14 Fruit fly making aphid drool (10)
- 15 Make J-U-M-P in wonder (10)
- 17 Trouble letting off steam? (3,5)
- 18 Better, having dismissed students (8)
- 20 9's heart lifted, I gathered, over 7's opener (6)
- 21 Sheep slow rearing little one (6)
- 22 Boot camp's first to cut benefit, though not entirely (4)
- 23 Bird, why ref has 6 aloud? (4)

Solution No. 25,393

