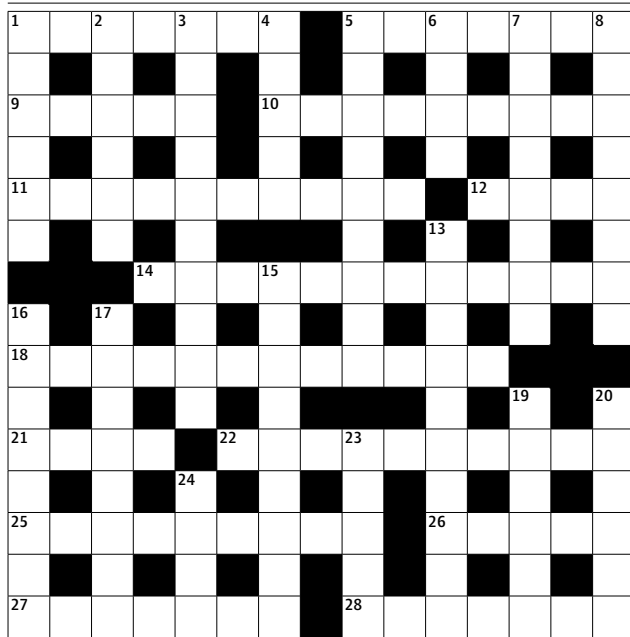


# Guardian cryptic crossword



No 25,436 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 25,436, 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 3 October.

Note added 28 September 2011: the clue for 16 down has been edited to correct an error in the version originally published.

### Across

- 1 Male animal a thousand and eight, perhaps, or roundabout (7)
- 5 At first, stink smelt – when one did so? (7)
- 9 Clear water, say, lid removed to keep cold (5)
- 10 Finished, leader in charge having some appalling defeats (9)
- 11 Poem seen as nonsensical magic words (4,6)
- 12 Someone pretentious reviewing Japanese art, less than perfect (4)
- 14 How one's eyes could implode in a serious way? (12)
- 18 Tip taken from beak joining nurses for parties (12)
- 21 More difficult, far more than a day's work (4)
- 22 Old shooter is caught doubled up in embrace of US girl, artist (4,6)
- 25 Back massage to accompany promiscuous 19 as acts of titillation (9)
- 26 The case of the gigantic beast? (5)
- 27 Artist taking single vessel into China (7)
- 28 Artist's bloody outstanding rotating tree (7)

### Down

- 1 Deodorant that's sweet covering bottom of genital region, finally (4-2)
- 2 Artist into 18 16 (6)

- 3 Nude stupid to wobble about, it's beyond question (10)
- 4 Artist – something cocked up? (5)
- 5 As net unravelling about artist, it decreases (5,4)
- 6 Very short distance by which winger misses header (4)
- 7 Artist's taken in hand by a supporter? (8)
- 8 Identification not written down, Ottoman governor in call for help proves defiant (8)
- 13 Supporter has complaint about new player (10)
- 15 She's enslaved artist in temple, topless (9)
- 16 More than one angel fish swallowing ruler, 100 cm (8)
- 17 Soldier given list of duties, short of a bunk (5,3)
- 19 Another story that's translated through incomplete personality (6)
- 20 Relies on mystery, ultimately, this artist? (6)
- 23 Good to support Conservative member – it's his policy (5)
- 24 County wards have them (4)

### Solution No. 25,435

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