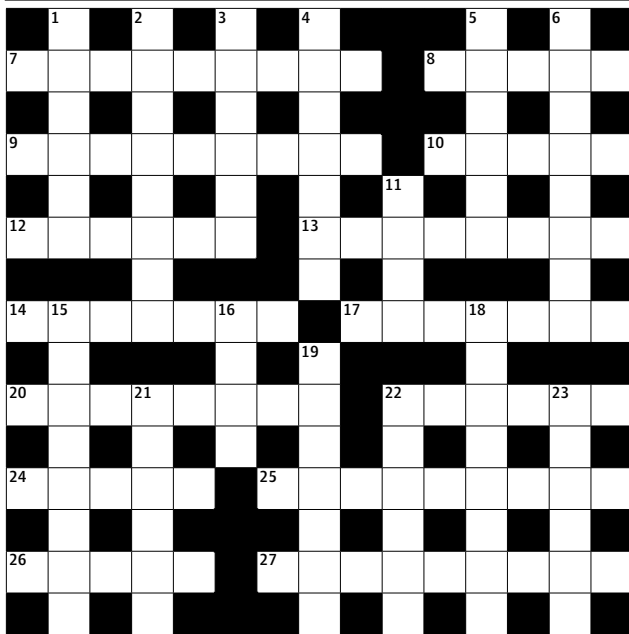


Guardian cryptic crossword



No 25,445 set by Puck

In this centenary celebration of "26 12" some solutions are not fully defined.

Across

- 7** Producer of 24 when the Guardian's in difficulties (4,5)
8 Precocious young girl, whichever way you look at it (5)
9,10 Having short dip, first of blue tits saw worm wriggling in novel way (2,4-3-5)
12 See 26
13,27 Sort out crime (hot hint: pedal into work) (3,5,9)
14 See 25
17,24 Contents of spoon and cup each put in "flathk" in "a bad story about the 20" (3,4,5)
20 Riley endlessly had fun, initially having suffered just the opposite? (4,4)
22 Washing facilities bedsit surprisingly offers (6)
24 See 17
25,14 Tip-off: bike part involved in thievery (hack's rewritten book) (3,6,7)
26,12 Said tart to old boy: "Nowt French for an Irishman" (5,6)
27 See 13

Down

- 1** Bum on the up, after house in Bath (3,3)
2 Somewhat like ex-PM that's kind of shady? (8)
3 City team has the last word (6)
4 10 in pie doled out with stew (7)
5 District with church and city hospital (6)
6 Indulge Asian creature reportedly extremely 2 (6,2)
11 One lewdly desiring some bicycle chains (4)
15 Nearly broken, holding the same sort of memory (4-4)
16 Cover story 5 raised (4)
18 Old 27 having surrealist briefly replace second English cyclist? (8)
19 Crazy Horse converted to film again (7)
21 Indulgently affectionate element in man's best friend (6)
22 Off day? That is criminal (6)
23 Great love reformed despicable chap (6)

Solution No. 25,444

