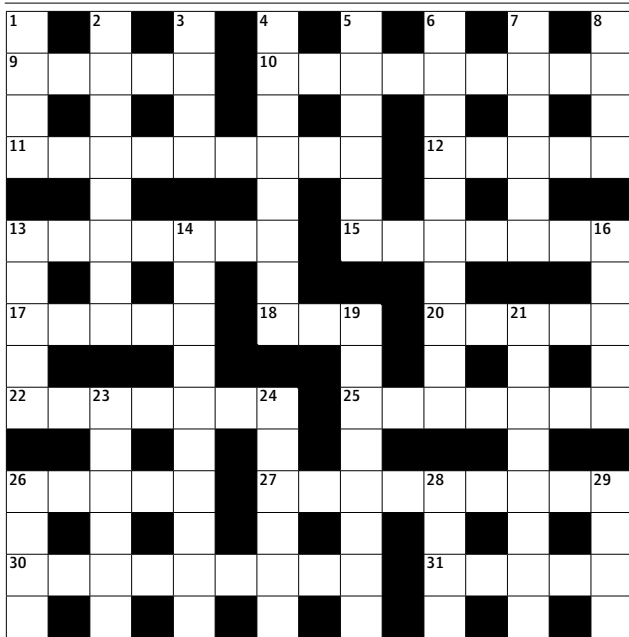


# Guardian cryptic crossword



No 25,453 set by Brummie

## Across

- 9 Drink order? Just one shot (5)  
 10 See 31  
 11 Drink blue? Then dilute (5,4)  
 12 Drink noisily, plus raging about bar's closure (5)  
 13 You don't have to pay for drinks, Matt – rye is free (2,5)  
 15 Drink container, say, has date drink to be returned (international unit) (7)  
 17 Dark not drunk (5)  
 18 See 31  
 20 Fast drinks record once held by Holst according to his mates? (5)  
 22 Drink-making ingredient and drink material (7)  
 25 Holder of drink effective, so qualifying for duty (7)  
 26 Pacific republic drink tipped to get gold (5)  
 27 Drink from island boater, possibly Brown (9)  
 30 Freebooter puts copper-backed tin into drink (9)  
 31,18,10 Drunk tried to lie with Madonna – gross (5,3,9)
- 5 Drink can forced under tooth (6)  
 6 Play's opening: in the lead, having knocked back drink, Herbert Tree starts (5,5)  
 7 EU involved with, firstly, shark fin soup to prepare a drink (6)  
 8 Mistake over drink (4)  
 13 Hum to upset personal drink taster (5)  
 14 Real tax changes covering drink upset outside the walls (10)  
 16 Drink crushes lives and possible way to union (5)  
 19 One opening in alcoholic drink-free town (8)  
 21 Nippers taken from the drink – throws rest off (8)  
 23 Versailles possibly rejected drink expert? (6)  
 24 Males entertained by Luke spilling drink (6)  
 26 Locals dunking bishop in flipping drink (4)  
 28 Drink when it's up (4)  
 29 Never offer drunk eggnog starters, bud! (4)

## Down

- 1 To make drink better, empty over setters (4)  
 2 Not the grand sum of drink in vessel (one litre) (8)  
 3 What goes into the drink at Szczecin? Nothing – drink up (4)  
 4 Drink contributing to problem on team (5,3)

Solution No. 25,452

H	I	L	L	M	O	B	T	A	K	E	N	U	P
E	E	A	A	R	I	E	A						
A	T	T	I	C	B	R	A	I	N	P	A	N	S
R	H	E	E	D	D	P	S						
T	E	A	T	R	O	L	L	E	Y	S	T	E	P
S	L	A											
M	E	I	L	M	D	E	T						
A	N	D	C	O	R	O	N	E	T	S			
G	G	N	C										
N	E	E	P										
E	U	S	T	O	P	L	M						
T	O	P	I	M	L	I	C	O	P	O	I	S	E
I	T	U	O	K	E	N	D						
C	R	O	U	T	O	N	S	C	R	A	G	G	Y