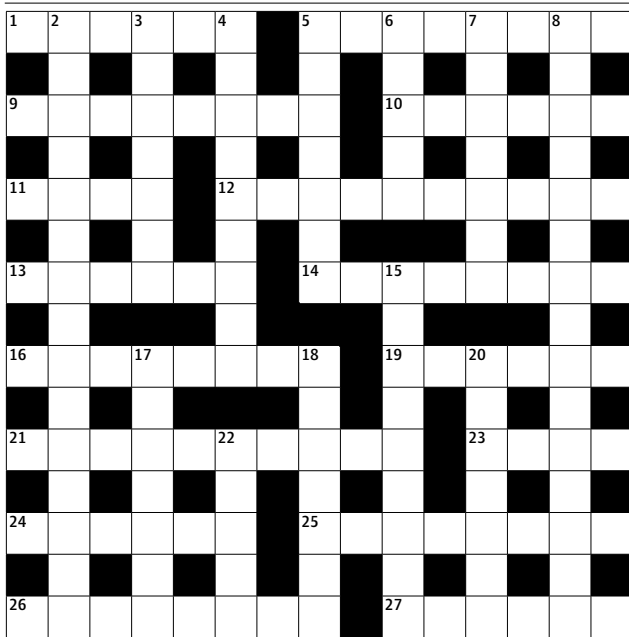


Guardian cryptic crossword



No 25,483 set by Puck

Across

- 1 Private school head's not initially remote (6)
- 5 Luggage carrier, originally from vehicle back into castle (4,4)
- 9 Increase number in layer (8)
- 10 A display of inexperience after cancelled service? Hatchback is deadly (6)
- 11 Tool returning chez Dad for a bit (4)
- 12 Downpour (cf. spurt) (10)
- 13 Part of Liverpool 9, say (6)
- 14 New Brighton? Head off about the distance from equator given by grid reference (8)
- 16 Two rock bands of the '70s, one halving drug use, take time showing expressiveness (8)
- 19 Threaten to go out with head of government, say (6)
- 21 Soldier's messing about in task (10)
- 23 Some oddities of uncertain recollection (4)
- 24 Almost 5 or 10, with 10 the turning point? (6)
- 25 Informed about husband reportedly drunk in foreign city (8)
- 26 Get rid of black snot I produced (8)
- 27 Foreign agreement embraced by parties in folk dance movement (2-2-2)

Down

- 2 At first agreed to lug old case round Englishman's castle for PM (4,7-4)
- 3 Eg pork pie given to a model carrying little weight (7)
- 4 Eccentric characters mostly surprised by English reserve (9)
- 5 Weak summary (7)
- 6 Cooked topless when tipsy (5)
- 7 Make fresh contact with outreach organisation, after adult goes missing (7)
- 8 Old French epic song from one of the Rat Pack? (7,2,6)
- 15 Sort of man that can be relied on to be far from sinister (5-4)
- 17 Band in which piano takes up odd bits of tune (7)
- 18 Turncoat's foremost pretext for disloyalty (7)
- 20 Walks wearily as a Dickensian in outskirts of Totnes (7)
- 22 Vetoes the other trendy set-up (5)

Solution No. 25,482

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