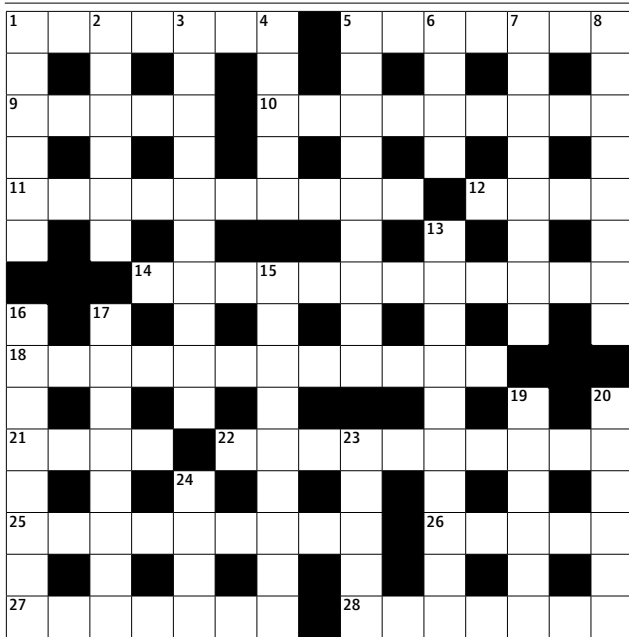


Guardian cryptic crossword



No 25,486 set by Paul

Across

- 1** Agreement great king casually rejected – on northerner's head be it? (4,3)
5 See 27
9 See 11
10 Nothing bitter about very soft old fruit (4,5)
11,12,9,22 American character, a hard worker claiming (wrongly) I'm louder, turns straight round (10,4,2,3,3,3,4)
14 Asian girl nicks car before outlaw steals one (5,7)
18 Typical example, figure scoffing less (neglecting starter), tucking into fruit (12)
21 Isle where the moon doesn't apply? (4)
22 See 11
25 Bound to embrace good character after a performance (9)
26 Put on step (5)
27,5 Possible headline during riots getting round (7,7)
28,17 Person admitting failing, hence turning round (7,8)

Down

- 1** Full of beans, loud and dangerous (6)
2 Prisoner bottling it up after a battle (6)
3 British Olympian state isn't able to honour leader in very old swimmer (10)

- 4** Foreign food individual I passed has gobbled up (5)
5 With more than one unknown verse, song dividing taste (9)
6 Raise seat (4)
7 Proper to support demon, it's suggested (8)
8 Doctor regains gun primarily for applying lubricant (8)
13 Dare, perhaps, a hundred birds I caught to make a noise at the disco? (5,5)
15 Rejects chipped plate with pasty in it (9)
16 Country gentleman investing readies initially left hoard (8)
17 See 28
19 Many ships separated centrally, bearing round the bend (6)
20 Celebrate hosting a show (6)
23 Flash bottom in style with glitzy clothing (5)
24 Tree getting round county (4)

Solution No. 25,485

