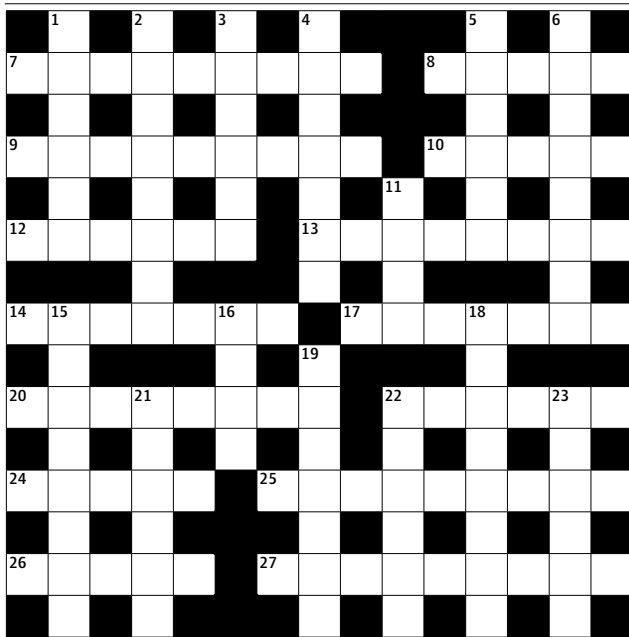


Guardian cryptic crossword



No 25,539 set by Rufus

Note added 23 January 2011: 19 down: a typing error in the first word of the clue has been corrected.

Across

- 7 Say it, for example, before church (9)
- 8 Where one may put the chalk before break, at the right moment (2,3)
- 9 Keen for action? (6,3)
- 10 Boat with half the crew in the stern (5)
- 12 Keep quiet about silver and nitrogen in the bottle (6)
- 13 Service is nevertheless no good (8)
- 14 Problem for retired cover girl (7)
- 17 Makes slow progress by streetcar (7)
- 20 A quiet river location, well chosen (8)
- 22 Boil – the spot comes first (6)
- 24 Conservative-Labour rift? (5)
- 25 Famous trumpet piece? Not impressed (9)
- 26 Shuffle the cards dishonestly and make a pile (5)
- 27 Removed fat, including wrinkle (6,3)

Down

- 1 Mistakes in Latin translation (6)
- 2 Example set by the Ancients (8)
- 3 Place of interest it's the custom to be silent going round (6)
- 4 Colour of Sherlock's study? (7)
- 5 Entraps by gin? (6)
- 6 Chelsea's opener precedes painful play in big match (3,5)
- 11 It comes before the final passion (4)
- 15 Naughty child to lie when in trouble, being insolent (8)
- 16 Leading sea power (4)
- 18 Go by car, perhaps (8)
- 19 Places visited on holiday, or between holidays (7)
- 21 Firm base? (6)
- 22 Reduce to silence when imprisoned (4,2)
- 23 Poor firm later making a profit (4,2)

Winners of prize puzzle 25,532

