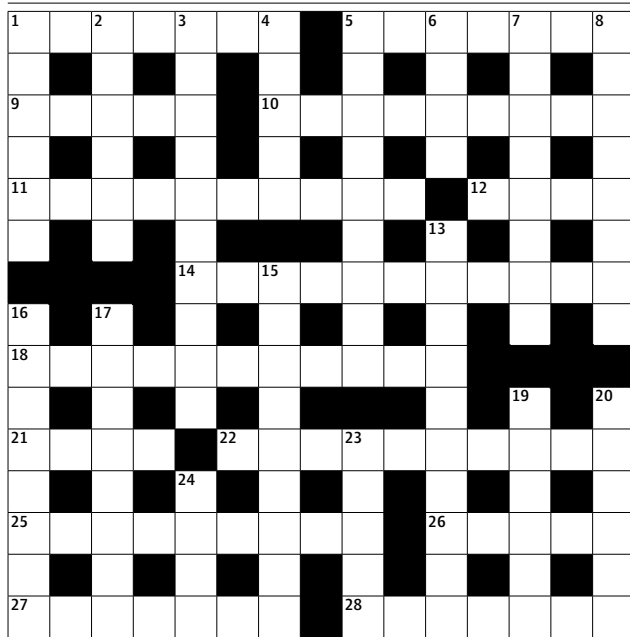


Guardian cryptic crossword



No 25,540 set by Pasquale

Across

- 1 Charity match given eminence in Scotland with electronic picture (7)
- 5 Talk with companion, trendy type trying to be funny (7)
- 9 Mum eats good bit of crust (5)
- 10 Indicate a place, as you might say, for yellow mineral (9)
- 11 Islands with eg seaside objects, we hear (10)
- 12 Study occupied by a faculty boss (4)
- 14 Copying CIA, Interpol will go wrong (11)
- 18 Greek containers for moving zoo stock? (11)
- 21 Field loses eastern edge, becoming concrete (4)
- 22 One twitching after securing bargain is expecting too much? (10)
- 25 Taking home too little pay as the result of obvious cut (9)
- 26 Claim of someone looking happy with building structure (1-4)
- 27 Beginning of term is desperate for those picked on by big bullies? (7)
- 28 One lot of soldiers and another wanting soldier in old system of government (7)

Down

- 1 Puzzle that's upset tot in spelling competition (6)
- 2 No adult wants to travel inside Japanese city (6)
- 3 Fashion accessory that's sorted out before a hat (7,3)
- 4 Male protected by dog or tiger? (5)
- 5 Worry at first about one wanting to get on (9)
- 6 Prominent Muslim maiden coming in an hour after midnight (4)
- 7 Unimportant misdemeanour? We'll protect one who is successful priest (5,3)
- 8 Apple trees may be introduced on account of this policy (8)
- 13 Travelled as a ship – into Bethlehem, as claimed in this activity! (10)
- 15 Nothing wrong in displays – things just seeming to be wrong? (9)
- 16 Authors bothered about bookstore's ultimate allocation of cash? (5-3)
- 17 A relation should keep quiet, that's obvious (8)
- 19 Master disciplined a group of pupils (6)
- 20 Skill shown by copper getting in the last word (6)
- 23 Civic dignitary would plant this tree on isle (5)
- 24 State bust, cash cuts being regularly made (4)

Solution No. 25,539

