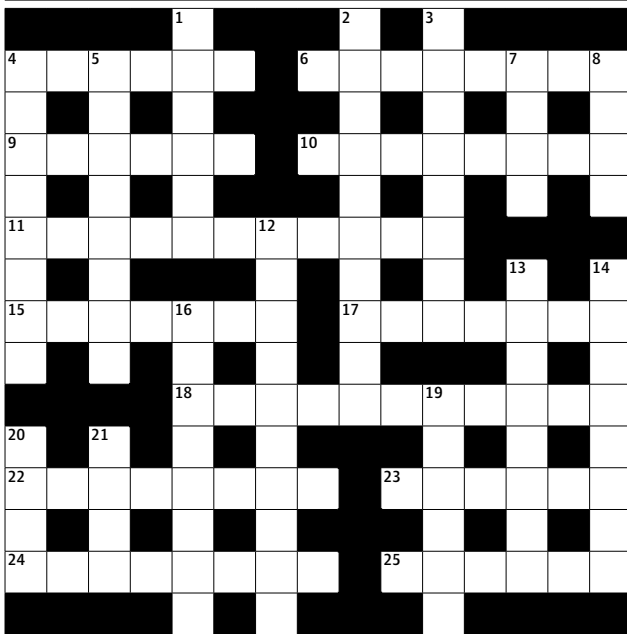


Guardian cryptic crossword



No 25,541 set by Shed

Across

- 4** Share prayer, wanting nothing (6)
6 Endless wine Shed's knocked back with officiant (8)
9 Close bank experiencing setback in US city (6)
10 Getting shot of free fling (8)
11 Character in Hamlet attended wild parties, bumping into popular performer? (11)
15 Designer of hobbit, elf or dwarf? (7)
17 It's not the whole story, but recipe's included (7)
18 Monk's live number accommodating rule (11)
22 Oil the wheels with S&M ... and bondage? (8)
23 River drowning one Roman governor (6)
24 Instrument-maker's to stop drinking wine when drunk (8)
25 Yearn to introduce soldiers to Mum or Dad (6)

Down

- 1** Girl holding up computer manufacturer's re-animated remains (6)
2 Plunging top to toe into metal 1s (6,4)
3 Like ancient poet's photo capturing faulty drain (8)
4 Vagabond to smuggle mineral (8)
5 Turtle's head fit for consumption – on this? (3,5)
7 Plenty of mucus around (4)
8 Smell smoke (4)
12 1's interrupting one Asian or another (10)
13 Old exclamation about ... about falling water ... or how to get rid of it? (8)
14 Most overpriced fly mostly securing piss-up (8)
16 Revolutionary or mordant? (8)
19 High point? No more than 151 (6)
20 Letters from louse unopened (4)
21 Down and dirty (4)

Solution No. 25,540

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