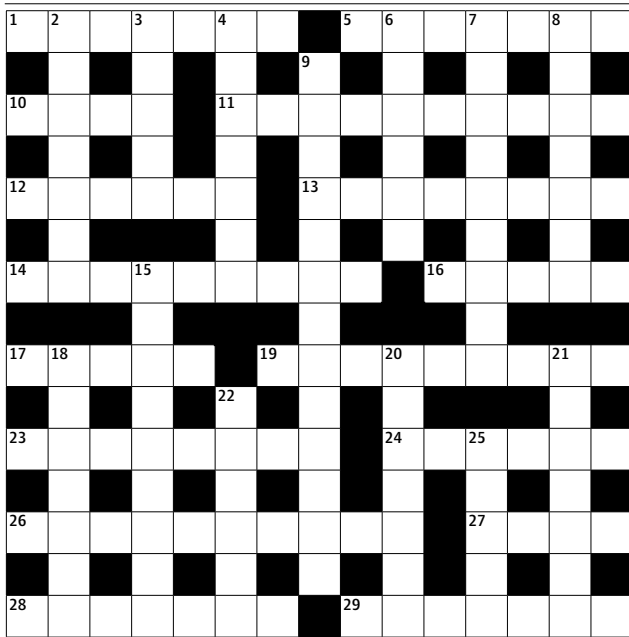


# Guardian cryptic crossword



No 25,557 set by Rufus

## Across

- 1 Chicken and port (7)
- 5 A couple of beasts to be sorted out? (7)
- 10 About finished (4)
- 11 Being indecisive sure to rile jockey (10)
- 12 Milan university turning out graduates (6)
- 13 Popular batting order (2,6)
- 14 Make a sorry speech (9)
- 16 I do it when playing the fool (5)
- 17 It bubbles forth, somehow (5)
- 19 Arrive with fresh request for admission (4,5)
- 23 Getting on top of the players is not very bright (8)
- 24 In a guinea pig it results in tooth loss (6)
- 26 Today's most popular writers? (10)
- 27 Occasion for the landlord to call (4)
- 28 Discovering English work of intelligence (7)
- 29 Lavish praise (7)

## Down

- 2 Cover of new novel breaks record (7)
- 3 A pound of sultanas? (5)
- 4 Taking the offensive is some help in boxing arena (7)

- 6 The game's finished without a team (2-4)
- 7 Olympic award note to ancient, badly made by novice (4,5)
- 8 He owed a pound of flesh? A strange notion (7)
- 9 Possible starting point for the railway enthusiast (5,8)
- 15 Recovery in the closing stages by the side (9)
- 18 Announces several changes (7)
- 20 Pardoned and released (7)
- 21 Trial at court (7)
- 22 Dark red strand (6)
- 25 It is essential to turn up at 06:50 at the outside (5)

Winners of prize puzzle 25,550

