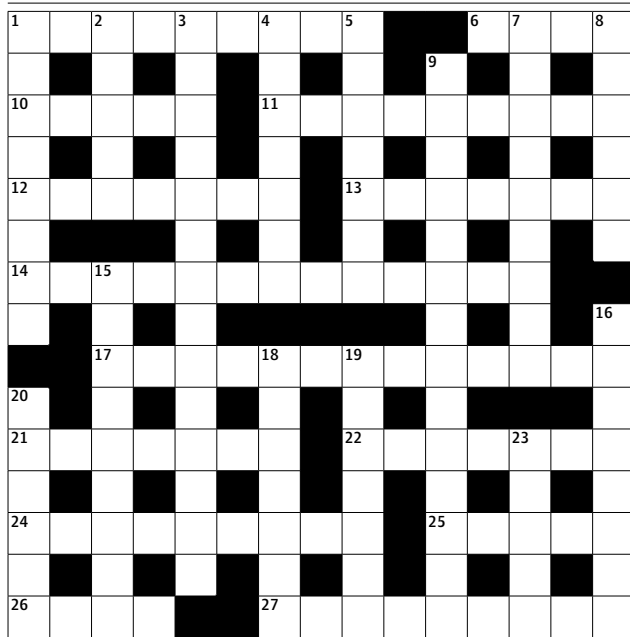


Guardian cryptic crossword



No 25,618 set by Paul

Across

- 1 See 8
- 6 A slow type, quick as you can! (4)
- 10 Beat cheat that's passed away (5)
- 11 Writer pens right magic word, only somewhat odd stuff (4-1-4)
- 12 Metal-plated present inside (7)
- 13 Plane perhaps carrying first of applicants in for The Apprentice (7)
- 14 Shift work in retail going up, their prices down (6,7)
- 17 8 1 across, it's suggested? That's not cricket! (4,9)
- 21 Drink keeping staff close (5,2)
- 22 Smelly old spot to squeeze poured forth (7)
- 24 Drink with cool ingredient? Little appreciative word for food (9)
- 25 Expression I love: "Dusky shrouds" (5)
- 26 Bunga bunga party ends for Silvio, power ebbing away (4)
- 27 During winless season, foal at Ayr, perhaps, becoming juvenile (9)

Down

- 1 Revealing top error, public transport (4,4)
- 2 Drink second short (5)
- 3 1/0 feeble odds, awfully slow work at the same time (2,3,4,5)
- 4 Crusader's companion overcoming infidels initially with a plant (7)

- 5 Leads written up about paper that's shot (7)
- 7 Calm around government's leadership? It's going the other way, that's plain (9)
- 8,1across Ailing during dip, king pulled out of backstroke, swimming in pool (6,9)
- 9 A colonic ailment less constant, requiring treatment that's soothing (8,6)
- 15 Bishop wearing expensive jewellery keeping away (9)
- 16 For example, pay good after a raise for chef's assistant (3,5)
- 18 Brown off to buttonhole Blair once for a high post (7)
- 19 Storm low overhead, keeping boats secured (7)
- 20 Classic film's last word taps into anyone's heart (6)
- 23 Old rag in gift boxes (5)

Solution No. 25,617

