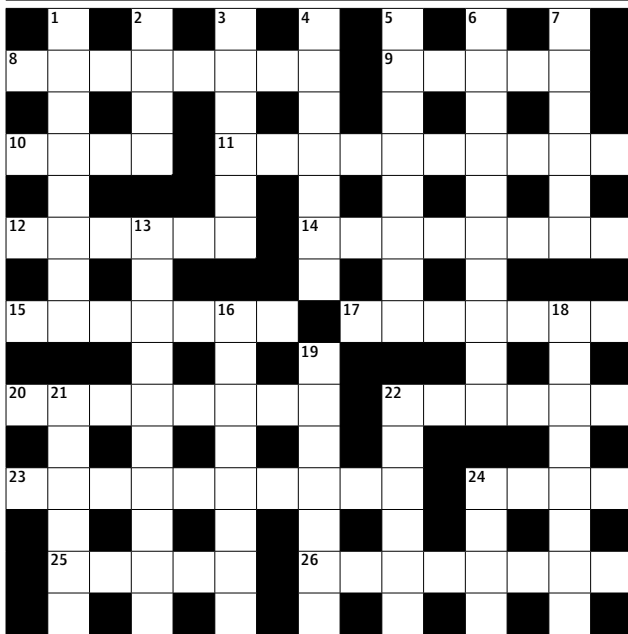


Guardian cryptic crossword



No 25,639 set by Chionie

Across

- 8** Weigh down detective with booze (8)
9 General gets Chinese parasite (5)
10 United draw with Dutch (4)
11 Plan to go in by force (10)
12 Worries about second stroke (6)
14 Starts to find occultist in setback? (8)
15 A target designed for a sporting event (7)
17 Setter's old-fashioned – an insurmountable difficulty (7)
20 Footballer's hanging onto new underwear (8)
22 Professional killer liquidated characters in cinema (6)
23 One Parisian chorus drinks wine? That's not fair! (10)
24 Old Bob had a meal in gorge (4)
25 Tycoon's stage effects (5)
26 Ethiopian leader giving voice in Olympic competition (8)

Down

- 1** Sue set fire to institute entrance (8)
2 Vegetable commonly found in Christmas pudding (4)
3 Barrister's clothing (6)
4 Government adopts trade union legislation (7)
5 Philanthropy is a liberal axiom (8)
6 One included in censure is to lose value (10)
7 Charlie's speed is immaculate (6)
13 Liberate the Channel Islands with pressure in spring (10)
16 Speculator produced article – riots erupted (8)
18 Badly-treated migrants feeling hurt (8)
19 Fool occupied by immensity of old court sessions (7)
21 A number pester partner in a state of immaturity (6)
22 Painter cut admission (6)
24 Arranged hotel for Adamson? (4)

Solution No. 25,638

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