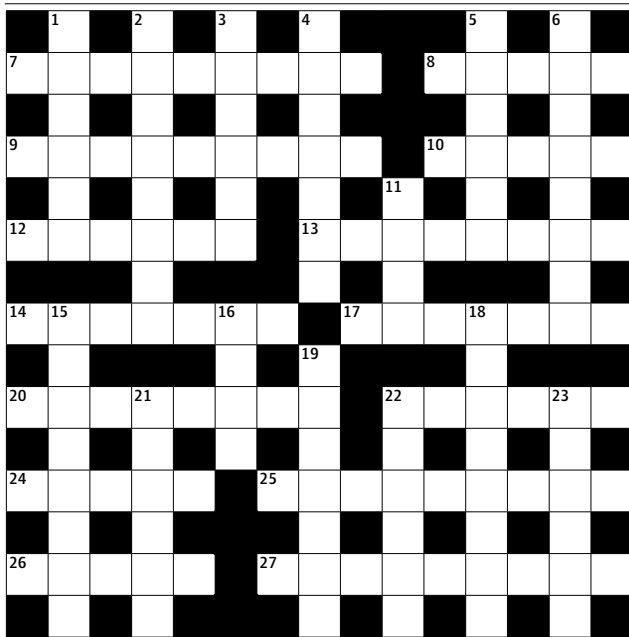


Guardian cryptic crossword



No 25,647 set by Rufus

Across

- 7 Subdue superior force (9)
- 8 Can an obese man have such an attraction? (5)
- 9 Fish and chips cooked with lard (9)
- 10 Heavens above! (5)
- 12 Dances arranged to scale (6)
- 13 False story about ring-leader produces bad feeling (8)
- 14 A fault in a fool or comic (7)
- 17 It may identify member leading the orchestra (7)
- 20 Marsh has meeting put into the paper (8)
- 22 Vessel takes girl to see the country (6)
- 24 Go hunting, we hear, for a bird (5)
- 25 They held people in ridicule (9)
- 26 They are defrauded of a penny in fees (5)
- 27 To squander money proves wrong – object to it (9)

Down

- 1 Is of use when a number set sail (6)
- 2 Supports used by printers (8)

- 3 He's old and confused (6)
- 4 Intercept an order to execute? (4,3)
- 5 Sharp practice produces uproar (6)
- 6 Love romance novel, set in Africa (8)
- 11 It's said to give equal support (4)
- 15 Shows appreciation, rises (6,2)
- 16 A love outwardly secure (4)
- 18 By no means on one's uppers (8)
- 19 Free of duty (7)
- 21 Order a hose connection (6)
- 22 Plant in haste, losing it (6)
- 23 Governess is expected to bring the girl up (6)

Winners of prize puzzle 25,640

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| P | E | R | S | O | N | A | B | A | R | R | A | C | K |
| O | E | B | R | Y | O | L | I | | | | | | |
| S | E | P | I | A | T | A | R | P | A | U | L | I | N |
| T | U | M | E | O | D | O | T | | | | | | |
| B | E | G | G | A | R | M | A | N | W | I | T | H | Y |
| A | N | I | O | R | | | | | | | | | |
| G | R | A | T | A | S | A | M | B | R | O | W | N | E |
| N | I | I | A | K | O | | | | | | | | |
| W | A | T | E | R | M | A | I | N | S | C | O | O | P |
| A | S | S | D | A | | | | | | | | | |
| R | E | C | A | P | R | I | F | L | E | S | H | O | T |
| P | A | E | A | I | Q | O | E | | | | | | |
| A | U | S | T | E | N | I | T | E | U | S | U | A | L |
| T | C | D | N | L | I | S | L | | | | | | |
| H | E | A | R | S | A | Y | D | I | P | T | E | R | A |