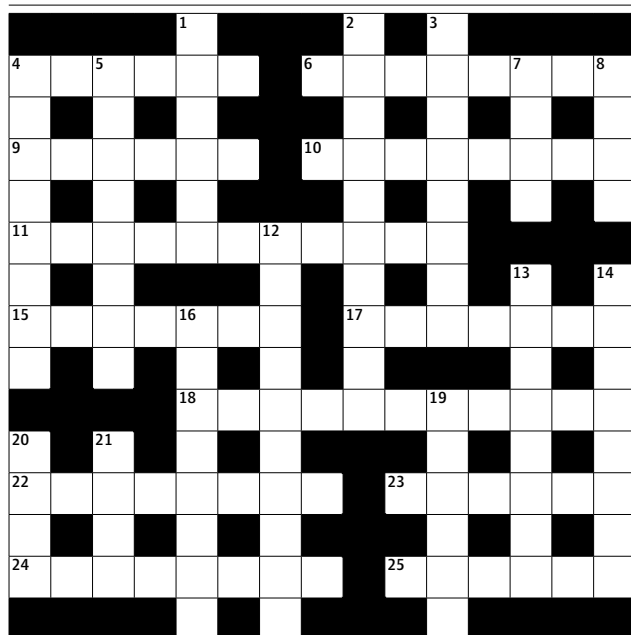


Guardian cryptic crossword



No 25,660 set by Picaroon

Across

- 4 Newspaper's leader penned by right regressive dope in such a publication? (3,3)
 6 Wealth's chief for English system of government (8)
 9 Silver rocket's tip breaking through with means of facilitating entry (6)
 10 Holidaymaker going after sun getting help to remove coat (8)
 11 To hell with personal motivation! Take a drink (11)
 15 Singer's to wrongly take issue about fifth note (7)
 17 Cameron, entangled in extravagant fiction ... (7)
 18 ... unfortunately uses NHS bill to show brutish quality (11)
 22 Abuse alcohol: consume without restraint at the start (8)
 23 Like Shelley's poetic spirit, it's mostly babble (6)
 24 Obtained round number in combination (8)
 25 Geek's refusal to enter into the spirit (6)

Down

- 1 From this one gets down solution at first; if not, one goes across in grid (6)
 2 Scorer in card game leading two of diamonds, keeping five and queen (10)

- 3 Scholarly book is very funny about American city (8)
 4 Working to change part of helmet grabbed by Spanish king (8)
 5 People's princess first with a harangue (8)
 7 Carbon copy – in the main, it's outstanding (4)
 8 Energy drained from long narration (4)
 12 Orchestrator of operas recited songs (10)
 13 One seeking return home, vacillating over crossing street (8)
 14 How deceitful politicians communicate in the opposite of the silly season? (8)
 16 He seeks luxury version of bestiary (8)
 19 Successfully putting Democrat out of property (6)
 20 Utter sentence the wrong way (4)
 21 Electronic accounts leave pound soaring (4)

Solution No. 25,659

