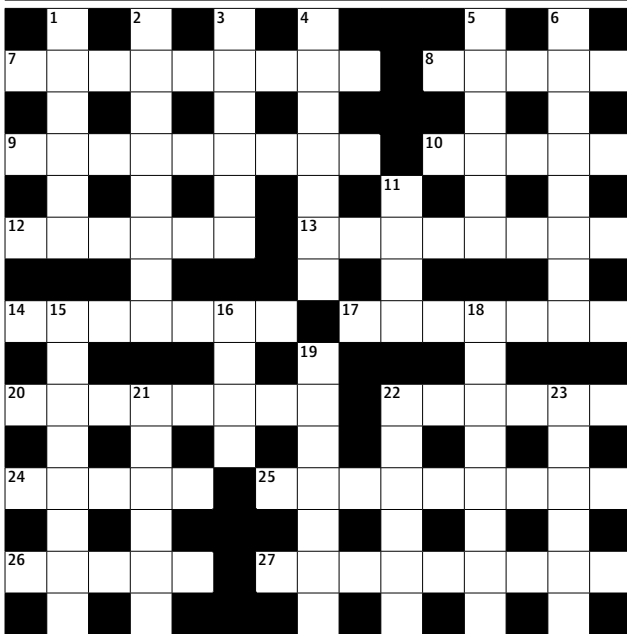


Guardian cryptic crossword



No 25,703 set by Boatman

Across

- 7 Chemicals like ratsbane are poisonous, so I tried swallowing ten (9)
- 8 Boatman's barb: does faith leader come before source of gospel? (5)
- 9 Champ for church service given mark of approval by a small number in report (9)
- 10 Heartless sinner is no angel? (5)
- 12 Before Man exists ... before that? An article of faith (6)
- 13 Live test match beginning after embarrassment of real unknown getting a duck first (4,4)
- 14 End of episcopate? Ask about royal job (7)
- 17 "Skip eating steak at last" – model (7)
- 20 Contrived to admire Kofi, perhaps (8)
- 22 Finally, faith in light brown ale is part of this (6)
- 24 Brand of squash (5)
- 25 Schematic representation of articles of faith (9)
- 26 Fool has faith leader hold recruits' capital (5)
- 27 Liberation for limbo-dancing Spooner (7,2)

Down

- 1 Spin doctor covers every attempt to influence the faithful (6)
- 2 Change of direction: Boatman's lost faith (8)
- 3 Monastic order rejecting impertinent show of levity (6)
- 4 Part from followers of faith over belief, not ignored (7)
- 5 Chopstick? (6)
- 6 Salve for concern about family (8)
- 11 See 15
- 15,11 Doubt source of gospel? (8,4)
- 16 Act of faith, if led by a woman, gets put down (4)
- 18 It's eaten or drunk at church in God's first doctrine (8)
- 19 What God may have done for Man, at the heart of faith (7)
- 21 One article of faith about what Jesus implied? (1,2,3)
- 22 *Ex hypothesi est angelus*: the rest you'll get later in the day (6)
- 23 Onset of doubt ends salvation in God – not what was intended (6)

Solution No. 25,702

