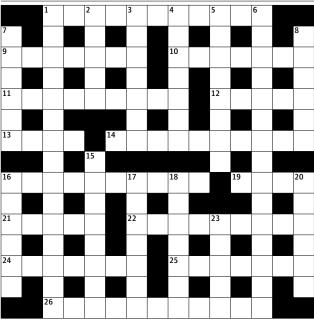
Guardian cryptic crossword



No 25,710 set by Gordius

Across

- 1 Pudding and veg may be served as a single item (5,6)
- 9 Artful paper that's folded? (7)
- 10 Model with swaying gait? Rubbish! (7)
- **11** Where varnish gets paid for in cash? (2,3,4)
- **12** Mysterious power of a soldier surrounded by decoration (5)
- **13** The unknown third parties? (4)
- 14 One may keep note on board (7,3)
- **16** Train Borg, a great Swedish player (5,5)
- 19 Animals chanted about? (4)
- 21 Directions for a girl to follow (5)
- 22 Munich let in chaos, when we could do with a break (9)
- **24** Palace hanger-on has no time for a messenger (7)
- 25 With mixed tennis a little bit of emotion can become strained (7)
- **26** Crop for fresh sergeant with club (5,6)

Down

- 1 Apostle's food served up in the city (5,10)
- 2 Take off Times Educational leader? (5)

- **3** There's nothing on top of Everest (4,3)
- 4 Owt foul when flushed down the pan? (7)
- **5** Gangster getting a rod can be unsettling (8)
- **6** One person that's glad with decrepitude? (3-3,9)
- 7 Withdraw from walkover in contest (3,3)
- 8 Warning signal could be a trick (6)
- **15** A gel formulated in leaves? (8)
- 16 Country with a musical sound (6)
- 17 Flight controller in a role that's unusual (7)
- **18** Burns night? Is that when one gets lit up?
- **20** Doctor's cure said in part to transfix? (6)
- 23 The male beast can become agitated (3,2)

Solution No. 25,709

