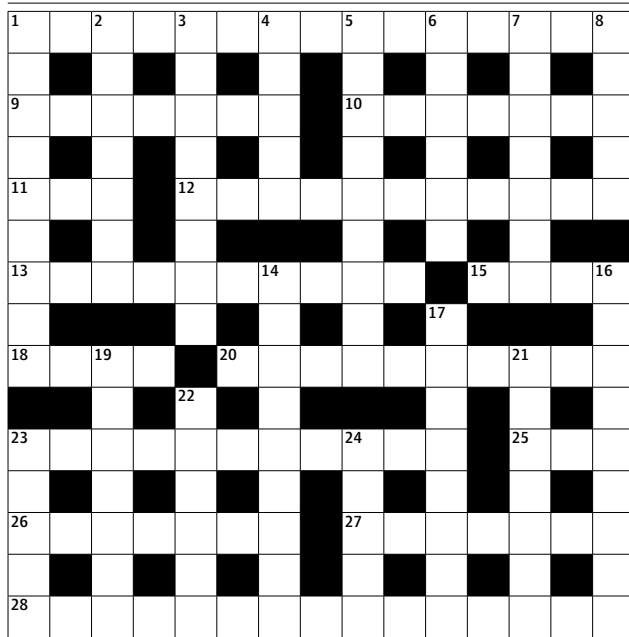


# Guardian cryptic crossword



No 25,730 set by Picaroon

The first five correct entries drawn each week win Guardian Style and Secrets of the Setters, worth £28.99.

Entries to: The Guardian Crossword No 25,730, P.O. Box 6603, Birmingham, B26 3PR, or Fax to 0121-742 1313 by first post on Friday. Solution and winners in the Guardian on Monday 10 September.

## Across

- 1 Red with feelings stirred up about possessing wealth (9,6)
- 9 Cracking booze knocked back, very fine stuff (7)
- 10 Utter fool's ebbing interest (7)
- 11 Report of outstanding au pair (3)
- 12 It exposes bust company during depression, say, worried for turnover (11)
- 13 This is a massive fiddle, 80% black market and extremely suspicious (10)
- 15 Man joining Nazis (4)
- 18 Pop has trouble with son about (4)
- 20 Notion Tory created by egoistic fiddling (3,7)
- 23 Jittery touring soldiers, with others retreating, getting a pick-me-up (11)
- 25 Japanese band love AC/DC (3)
- 26 Some toast right-winger admitting defeat (7)
- 27 Duck has 0.1cm tongue (7)
- 28 Chapter hots up in novel with man who's a bit of a beast (15)

## Down

- 1 Where you could find jacks – there should be sixteen of them here, by the sound of it (9)
- 2 Queen enters wearing robe digging into flesh (7)
- 3 Suppliers of humbug and fudge consumed by medics (8)
- 4 Place to save a designated victim (5)

- 5 They keep drinks cool, with loud requests to swallow litre (3,6)
- 6 Scoffed in compiler's absence? (6)
- 7 Company offering record value in Dubai? (7)
- 8 Victory in Berlin with English military operation (5)
- 14 Ruler at sea is in second class, travelling in a train (9)
- 16 Broadcaster, rich man, grabbing right to show high level sportspeople (9)
- 17 Tasteless headline from Sun: "Best woman's going topless" (8)
- 19 Hell! It's the wrong colour (7)
- 21 22 down is cracking – Picaroon's number one! (3,4)
- 22 Try touching appeal at first – it may bring a lump to one's throat (6)
- 23 Go over the top after soldiers (5)
- 24 One needing computer technology to comprehend 500 + 10? (5)

Solution No. 25,729

