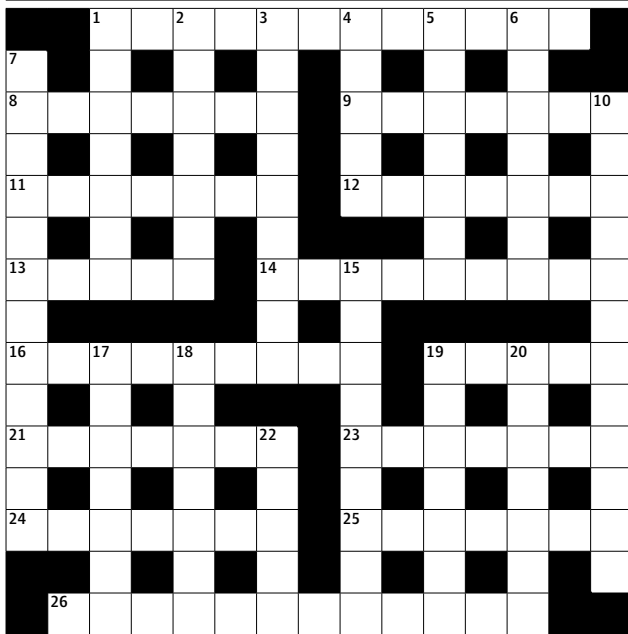


# Guardian cryptic crossword



No 25,740 set by Araucaria

## Across

- 1** Each round number in counterfeit has been cut – it's a doddle (1,5,2,4)  
**8** A large quantity – of sherry drunk? (7)  
**9** Harsh rule preceded between semi- and American cities (7)  
**11** One of five when expert in philosophy (7)  
**12** Reportedly foolish trick with chips? (7)  
**13** See 19  
**14** Treatment for payees is a doddle (4,2,3)  
**16** Expert probing generous number finds it's a doddle (2,7)  
**19,13** Drama of 2 etc is a doddle (6,4)  
**21** Smith falsely accepting honour for 11's ideas (7)  
**23** Chimney breast's opening in the past brings back trouble (7)  
**24** Welshman is telling fibs to the press (7)  
**25** Alaric strangely keeping his name in his head? (7)  
**26** Dreamy work for doctor being informed case was a doddle? (2,4,6)

## Down

- 1** Accumulation has an unkind sound (7)  
**2** Trendy dream of early days (7)  
**3** Plods unsteadily into prison, perhaps, with a snap (4,5)

- 4** Explorer or conspirator doing porridge, say (5)  
**5** Petals would be a natural result when on line (7)  
**6** Marsh plant family gets award for hero raised (7)  
**7** Fools dine at folly and get done in (12)  
**10** Pull with ease, say, and write aimlessly in American (6,6)  
**15** Images showing card with number removed from 1 down wrongly (9)  
**17** Final notice in search for upright character (7)  
**18** Opening for gold providing diamonds (7)  
**19** Go round with needle (7)  
**20** Caliph in parliament with lost leader like 11 (7)  
**22** Holder of revenue for motorway is the Queen (5)

Solution No. 25,739

