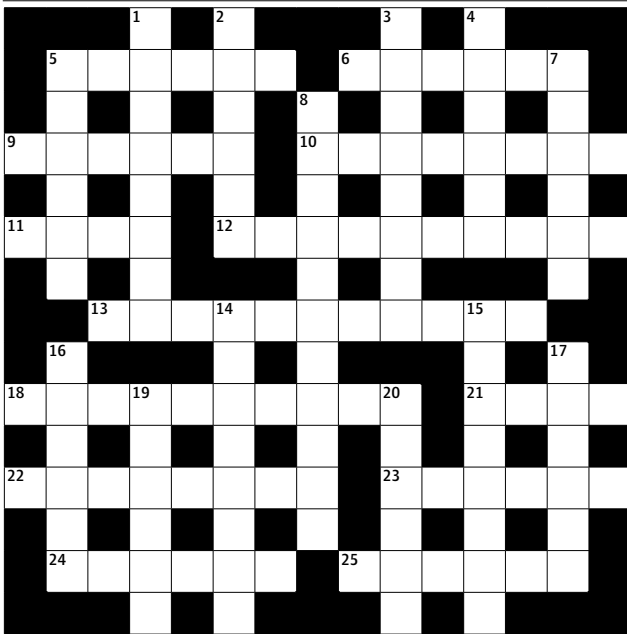


# Guardian cryptic crossword



No 25,743 set by Rufus

## Across

- 5 Fights that dogs enjoy (6)
- 6 They join the family after the match (2-4)
- 9 A cleaner turns up vermin (6)
- 10 Possibly uncrates something coming from ancient Italy (8)
- 11 Song with a retrospective melody (4)
- 12 One doesn't have to practise it (4-6)
- 13 Saint George shocked by such discrimination (11)
- 18 Expert swimmers in the Household Brigade? (4,6)
- 21 A short cut for sailors (4)
- 22 A particular form of dislike (8)
- 23 Male relative gets a quarter – what a relief! (6)
- 24 Row in park is unpleasant (6)
- 25 Test gold before transaction (6)
- 3 Unusual doctrine of deferred payment (2,6)
- 4 Standard issue for a minister (6)
- 5 Escort lady and gentleman (6)
- 7 Main road? (6)
- 8 Looking for 5 across? (11)
- 14 Rakes money in with comedian's material (8)
- 15 Lived in, when engaged (8)
- 16 Pirate gets a medal (6)
- 17 A lever used to take the lid off (6)
- 19 Mistakes upset sailor in time (6)
- 20 He may challenge you for record after slow start (6)

Winners of prize puzzle 25,736

## Down

- 1 Introduce girl to mysterious rite involving incense (8)
- 2 Rates at which the sea comes up on board (6)

