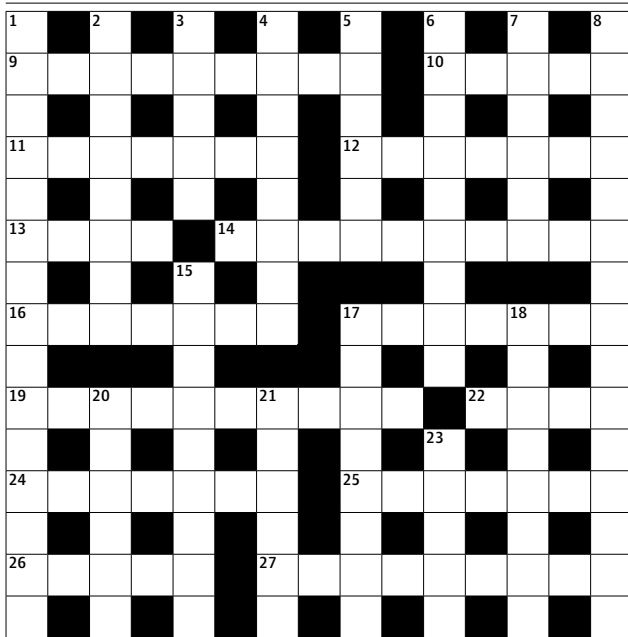


Guardian cryptic crossword



No 25,753 set by Araucaria

Across

- 9** Everyone's in debt when there's a female around – when there's witches around! (9)
10 Excel, alfresco or not (5)
11 Turn in – more time in suitable chair (7)
12 See 3
13 Obsolete coin with nothing in it? Precisely (4)
14 Dance scene in 3 12 in case ferryman comes round (10)
16 Compound report of journey in the dark (7)
17 Method of painting sticky stuff sounds a pain (7)
19 I'm calling with a certain qualification (2,1,7)
22 A lake fed by a river (more like the Dead Sea?) (4)
24 Take your place in the distance with return to streaming? (7)
25 Leader of Leeds in the Sun – wrong part of Leeds (7)
26,18 Co-author slain horribly around 14 (5,8)
27 Being old, have gun when diamonds are about (9)

Down

- 1** No problem for the vicar, then, in 3 12's 21 (3,6,2,4)
2 Musician to suit change in residence (8)
3,12 17 down's monarchs in 1952? (5,3,4)
4 Consent to investigation? I don't know (6,2)
5 Not just brunette? (6)
6 V1 causing double trouble in a friend (9)
7 Setter's funny way (6)
8 Let person open it? Maybe better not (6,3,6)
15 Flickers of anger during escape (9)
17 Musician to spread her wings? (8)
18 See 26
20 An aura not born of hostility (6)
21 “__ born great”, said Malvolio, the mathematician (6)
23 Joins scandal up? (5)

Solution No. 25,752

