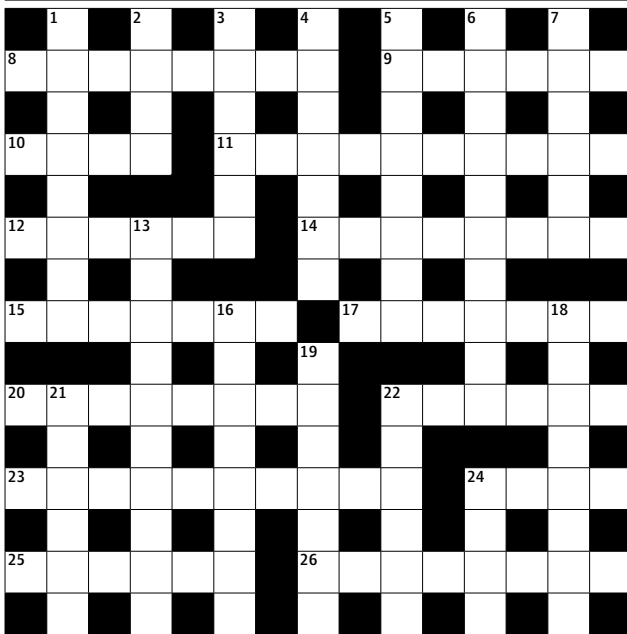


Guardian cryptic crossword



No 25,764 set by Picaroon

Across

- 8** Extremely uncongenial bird's embraced at last (8)
- 9** Actor's denied leading part in films (6)
- 10,24** Old swinger who scored with temptress – it ends in remorse (4,4)
- 11** Swinger professionally and privately has row about German swingers' clubs (5,5)
- 12** Swinger going on record shows what's grand in French Resistance (6)
- 14** Gin reportedly reduces discomfort in swingers' bars (8)
- 15** The Ottoman commander most admired by his peers produces middle-brow novel (3,4)
- 17** Swinger's flat out here having food to scoff (7)
- 20** Worker taken in by PM has silly illusion (8)
- 22** Trojan horse's outside Caribbean country (6)
- 23** Actress admits whisky's knocked back for illumination (6,4)
- 24** See 10
- 25** See 1
- 26** See 2

Down

- 1,25** Swingers seduced by parties love gin – start of frolics! (8,6)
- 2,26** Swinger's activity with one fellow, say, accepting hands going up leg (4,8)
- 3** Swinger like 10 24 across's beat (6)

- 4** Top for woman with figure of a voluminous nature (7)
- 5** Long aria composed for this? (8)
- 6** Addict needs this endless buzz: too many drugs leading to crime, unfortunately (10)
- 7** Cross Irish girl wasting time (6)
- 13** Cinematic location fails to entertain patron of the theatre (3,7)
- 16** Large woman's uncontrolled eating leads to swollen stomach (8)
- 18** Bishop caught in fling with joiner in pick-up location (3,5)
- 19** Singer plugs TV award half-heartedly – it's an important mission (7)
- 21** Legendary 3 building century (6)
- 22** Swinger exercising no discrimination during arousal (6)
- 24** After starter's put away, beef's ready (4)

Solution No. 25,763

N	E	M	E	S	I	S	R	E	C	L	A	I	M
A	I	O	T	U	O	N	I	Y					
C	O	L	D	S	N	A	P	S	N	A	D	I	R
R	K	O	N	S	F	A	T						
E	L	S	E	A	D	D	I	T	I	O	N	A	L
	O	S	A	A	S	T	E						
O	P	E	N	E	R	N	U	C	L	E	U	S	
	A	D	R	A									
A	M	E	R	I	C	A	O	S	T	E	A	L	
M	X	L	N	U	E	U							
P	A	C	K	S	A	D	D	L	E	A	C	T	S
H	R	P	P	E	C	T	O						
O	M	E	G	A	O	S	T	R	A	C	I	S	M
R	T	C	O	T	M	O	M						
A	M	A	T	E	U	R	E	X	P	A	N	S	E