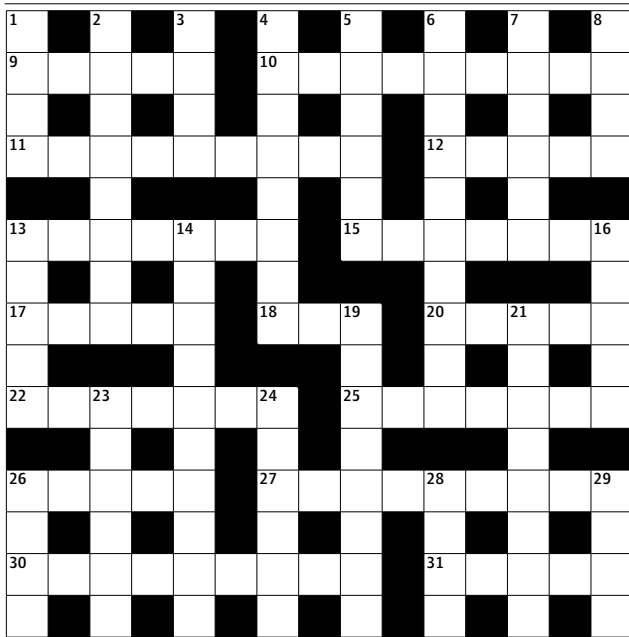


Guardian cryptic crossword



No 25,797 set by Brendan

Across

- 9** Part of target some attain nervelessly (5)
10 Run in front of a flag at sea secured by sailor in naval battle (9)
11 Cheese, one of ER's favourites (9)
12 Nincompoop that writes in ridiculous prose, initially (5)
13 Understood? May doubt, if it's not pronounced quite right (4,3)
15,22 With 20, 26 across and 26 down and things that may be 8, 9, 17, or 24 repeatedly does the impossible? (7,7)
17 Big jar, say (5)
18 Service in some games of tennis (3)
20 In open space most of drama is about extreme characters (5)
22 See 15
25 Ideal as some 15 are, such as 9 and 16 (7)
26 Confuse extremely elderly old conservative (5)
27 Punitive person is more restrained outside (9)
30 Educational establishment about to raise national standard (5,4)
31 Increase interest in security against debt very shortly introduced (5)

Down

- 1** Female coming to harm with Jack (4)
2 Section of womenkind leaders get fired up (8)
3 Torture restricted to odd positions? Right (4)
4 Laws in parts of US covering organisation of workers (8)
5 Dramas broadcast in Indian city recalled (6)

- 6** Work of Da Vinci remains superior (4,6)
7 Girl EU treated in a way that's not so fair (6)
8 Whip ringleader held by officer (4)
13 Like a lot of 15 and one amongst 22 – marvellous! (5)
14 Excelling on court, given latitude in trip (10)
16 Hardly any conform to metric system on weight, ultimately (5)
19 As for pupils, notice put up about book (3,5)
21 Putting off claims I have reduced (8)
23 Get back area in African country after rising (6)
24 Gregarious like this – unlike ministers, turned up (6)
26 Announced warning after mistake on course for crew (4)
28 Put down 15, say, as piece in game (4)
29 Something shaped like 22 for lover or 15 for fighter (4)

Winners of prize puzzle 25,790

