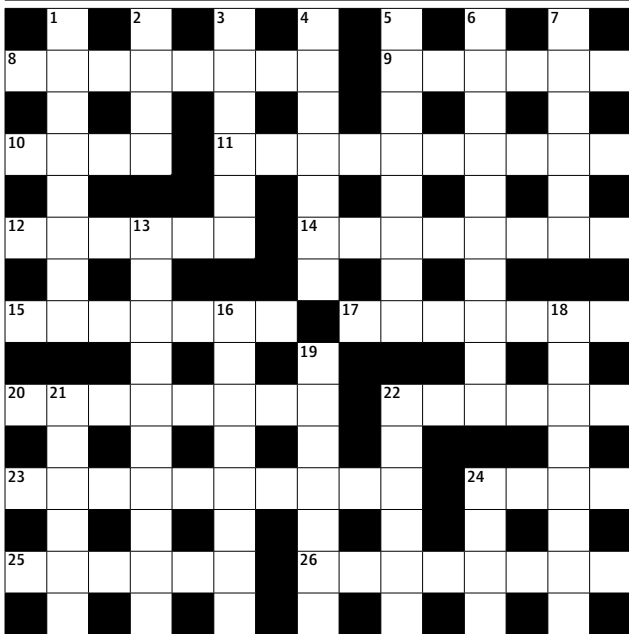


Guardian cryptic crossword



No 25,818 set by Paul

Across

- 8 Carrier pigeon finally into niche house contracts (8)
- 9 Chapter requiring material for children's writer (6)
- 10,3 16 15 17 (4-2-4)
- 11 Attention-seeker squeezing soft rubber article for entertainment in Italy (5,5)
- 12 One calling for a double (6)
- 14 I speak ill of Sicilian, perhaps (8)
- 15,17 Car twice the size primarily let loose round the back of Portobello? (7,7)
- 20 So there's misshapen toe in brogue – try this? (4,4)
- 22 Quite pleasing (6)
- 23 Joke about second crossword solver not starting 10 3 (3,7)
- 24 Means by which money returned (4)
- 25 Unit of force went off and on (6)
- 26 At sea, Titan at sea (8)
- 5 Small spider, perhaps – one with spidery writing? (8)
- 6 Name etched into a bracelet, possibly for a portable box (10)
- 7 I like, regularly, to embrace God (6)
- 13 California waters where ancient weapon taken in case of grenade (6,4)
- 16 Nations spending the same money, Continental road to climb, critical stuff going over our heads? (8)
- 18 Dismissed, then sure to be leaving (8)
- 19 Witch sees Liberal couple possessed by virtual witch (7)
- 21 Frost a 23? Don't trust him! (6)
- 22 One into social balance (6)
- 24 Skirt or tie, loosely speaking (4)

Down

- 1 One of twelve walls in solid interior for stone statue (8)
- 2 Dog without lead finding some balls (4)
- 3 See 10
- 4 As bottom delightful, bottom pinched (7)

Solution No. 25,817

