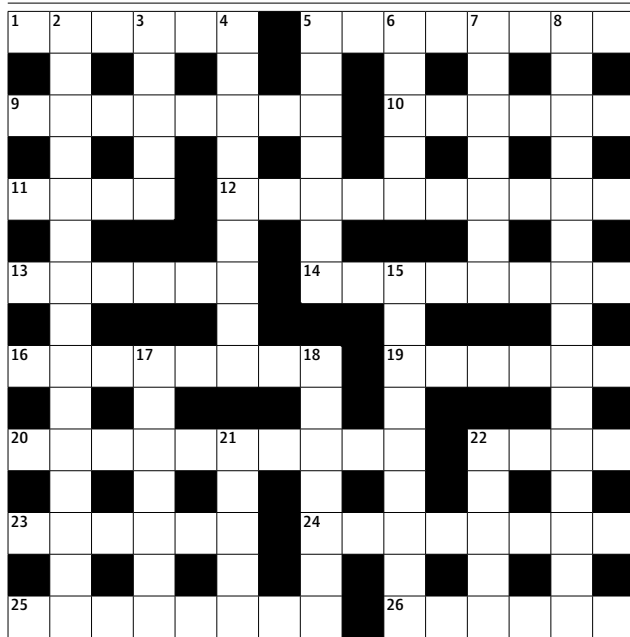


Guardian cryptic crossword



No 25,819 set by Audreus

Across

- 1 Very cold parrot starting a course of action (6)
- 5 Prehistoric flint head of the Spanish distant conflict (3-5)
- 9 Use ropes flexibly on the surface, raised in relief (8)
- 10 How did little devil behave? With shock! (6)
- 11 Sheriff yodelling is a bit dubious (4)
- 12 So a hug upset outstanding girl? 15 needed! (6,4)
- 13 Regenerates us? Does getting pickled? (6)
- 14 Charlie gets back around mid-morning, overdue – turning a dull grey colour (8)
- 16 Stone me! Belonged to you a long time ago, in a way (8)
- 19 Fetching a number of Romans by order to see (6)
- 20 Home counties copper, god of the house, is beginning to move to a worldly way of thinking (10)
- 22 Quits flat (4)
- 23 Crooked cashier with-drawing a lot of material possessions (6)
- 24 Overcome journey, say, from the kitchen garden? (8)
- 25 Distress with endless problems one day before (8)
- 26 Cast, say, from Windsor chair? (6)

Down

- 2 Nothing against a bit of work – to keep busy I left

- women for an overbooked gathering (8,7)
- 3 Sarcastic talk brings club to untimely end (5)
- 4 In the past dry, yet sea rough ... (9)
- 5 ... soon, for example, about half London may be engulfed (7)
- 6 Chuck, for starters, fish left in neighbour's garage (5)
- 7 Quick answer in practice is incentive to get up (7)
- 8 Almost never related to astronomy! (4,2,1,4,4)
- 15 On about messieurs (in French) getting into bed – my lips are sealed (2,7)
- 17 Harder time getting old? How repugnant for the Queen (7)
- 18 Protective cover, enough for a very little tot (7)
- 21 A key that leads to a hitch? (5)
- 22 English bishop takes gold? Whoops! (5)

Solution No. 25,818

