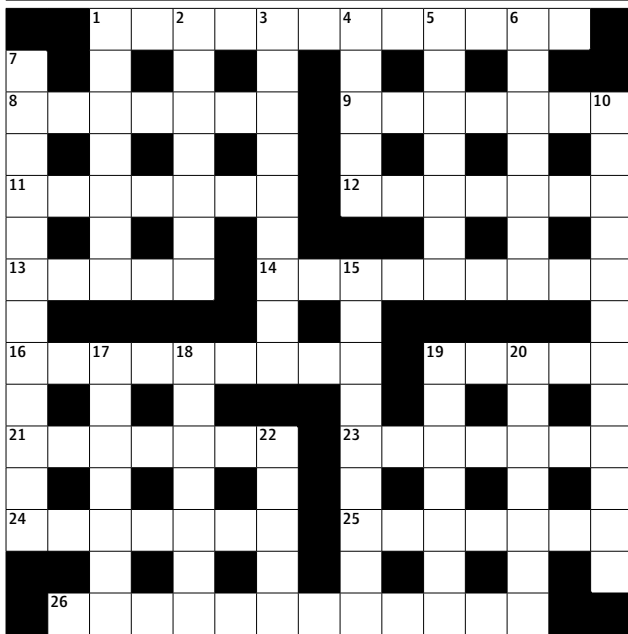


Guardian cryptic crossword



No 25,820 set by Shed

The first five correct entries drawn each week win Guardian Style and Secrets of the Setters, worth £28.99.

Entries to: The Guardian Crossword No 25,820, P.O. Box 6603, Birmingham, B26 3PR, or Fax to 0121-742 1313 by first post on Friday. Solution and winners in the Guardian on Monday 24 December.

Across

- 1 Tolerably recompensed men domiciled abroad (6-6)
- 8 Space in vehicle for the French man of the match? (7)
- 9 Justifiable apprehension of dandy taking possession of car I wrecked (4,3)
- 11 Second one individually removed from buffoonery in disorder (7)
- 12 Familiar face (not constipated) (7)
- 13 Capital I in "item of furniture" (5)
- 14 Female rep actor reaped second harvest (9)
- 16 Undiplomatic about monarch's rash (9)
- 19 Trainee rebel given time (5)
- 21 Win admiration of conscript (7)
- 23 Slate educated business person in terminal (7)
- 24 Picture house where everything's in grey, funnily ... (7)
- 25 ... a cinema having turned pale (7)
- 26 Possible description of thinker, toff and priest in brown (12)

Down

- 1 Holiday destination for a chick wearing hand-warmer? Not quite (7)
- 2 Rising, also, to introduce Eastern instrument with strings – and guts! (7)
- 3 Deposit tale about spirit (9)
- 4 Draw conclusion that's right about far right, formerly (5)
- 5 Hanger-on's about to hang on (7)
- 6 Spotted Mum adjusting a curl (7)
- 7 Murdered fence – by Spooner's account, a simple matter (5,7)
- 10 26s about to reference proboscis-owner with elephant's head in footnote (12)
- 15 Turn on poorly-fed bird first (9)
- 17 Extreme uprising internally democratic (7)
- 18 Lousy tennis player previously entering America (7)
- 19 Apparently gay terrorists once raised drink (7)
- 20 Bearer of barrels of fragrant oil covering girl up (7)
- 22 Authorisation expresses nothing (3-2)

Solution No. 25,819

