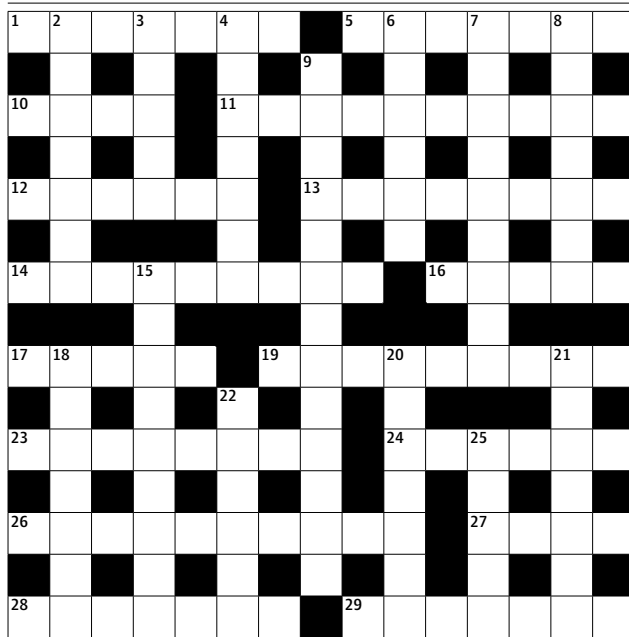


# Guardian cryptic crossword



No 25,825 set by Puck

## Across

- 1 Drug in wrong receptacle for narcotic user (7)
- 5 Part of train with kind of light meals provider (7)
- 10 US city backed removing one Arab leader (4)
- 11 Wrecked a car 26? The fourth time's close, to be fair (10)
- 12 26 as hard in a moment (6)
- 13 A stream running through a second US city (8)
- 14 26 small piece of bread's included with one cake (5,4)
- 16 See 26
- 17 Pink hit (26?) (5)
- 19 Paint mixed on a crude table top (9)
- 23 Basic principle by which Piglet holds stupid Eeyore's tail (8)
- 24 God has never-ending position within the big leagues (6)
- 26,16 Gag? A gag! A gag? A chart-topper! (5,5,1,4)
- 27 Bird, one taking fewer than 26 (4)
- 28 Prepared for print last of the 26, finally entering petty revision (7)
- 29 Shakespeare's Midsummer Night's Dream starts with European 26 going round estate (7)

## Down

- 2 Problem broadcasting Doctor Who, one way or another (7)
- 3 Lacking acceleration, 26 attempt it to attain notable speeds (5)
- 4 A drink served up after Greek character's eaten ham (7)
- 6 Old tape machine with a 26 alternating screen image (6)
- 7 Civil unrest involves group of 26 dropping by, becoming bitterly abusive (9)
- 8 Verbally attacked by man of God over shoplifting (7)
- 9 Italian girl not married by the book? I'm OK either way (3,3,3,2,2)
- 15 Utter contempt, say, in poor Sir Alec's case (9)
- 18 Bad as a thug on the loose in Manhattan? (7)
- 20 Mother's in sight, possibly topless or in the altogether? (2,5)
- 21 Charge for the audience as a rule (8)
- 22,25 Film car getting gas? 26 it's said for effect (11)

Solution No. 25,824

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