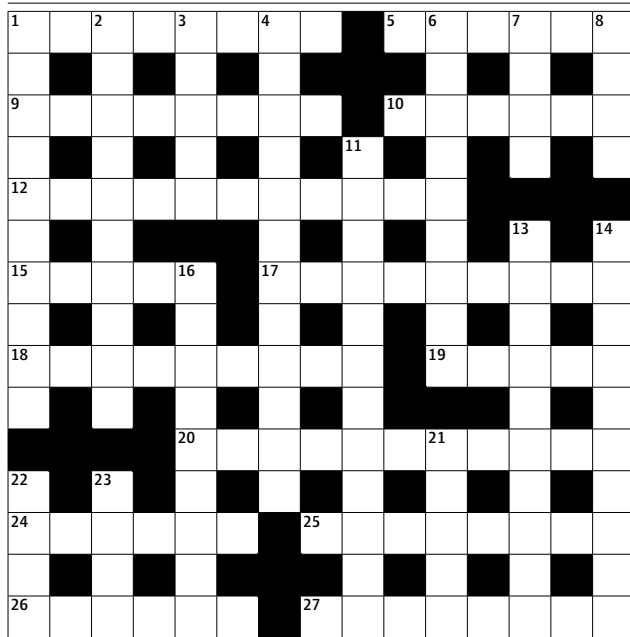


Guardian cryptic crossword



No 25,843 set by Paul

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 25,843, 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 21 January.

Across

- 1 Boy with great expectations owed extraordinary unknown quantity, shut up (4,4)
- 5 Reportedly spotted a hairy thing (6)
- 9,15 Junket by Labour leader and shadow chancellor in shorts and shirt, sportingly (8,5)
- 10 Those helping young people in bureau, nice folk (6)
- 12 Cut around lakes with hard blade on the farm (11)
- 15 See 9
- 17 See 21
- 18 Still awaiting salesman to collect one carbon copy (9)
- 19 Body suits the wrong way round, facing initially to the rear (5)
- 20 Spin round gradually at first, following someone in restaurant, alluring type (7,4)
- 24 See 23
- 25 Temporary suspension gives a diva a change of heart (8)
- 26,7 One causing friction with sweetheart, finds plaything all soaped up? (6,4)
- 27 Generous society lacking cobblers? (8)

Down

- 1 Struggle to overtake backmarkers in particular, hungry for some pie! (4,6)
- 2 Still sexy, old fruit having bottom wiped in pub (10)

- 3 Base lifted, little word from caveman having to fix a computer (5)
- 4 Satellite dish under woodwork for starters, possibly in a good position (4-8)
- 6 Dynamic Duo seen with person, slow and clumsy (9)
- 7 See 26
- 8 One necked by an Elizabethan that's uncultured, we hear (4)
- 11 Hollywood legend having come round dined on top of tall furniture item (7,5)
- 13 Ability to recover home without deposit initially left one to invest (10)
- 14 Value fuse, unless blown (10)
- 16 23 24 in this event is logical, not entirely in the pink (9)
- 21,17 9 15 (3,2,3,6)
- 22 Old leader gets around houses (4)
- 23,24 Modern revolution grips Bahrain, internationally hated leaders getting ousted all over the place (4,6)

Solution No. 25,842

