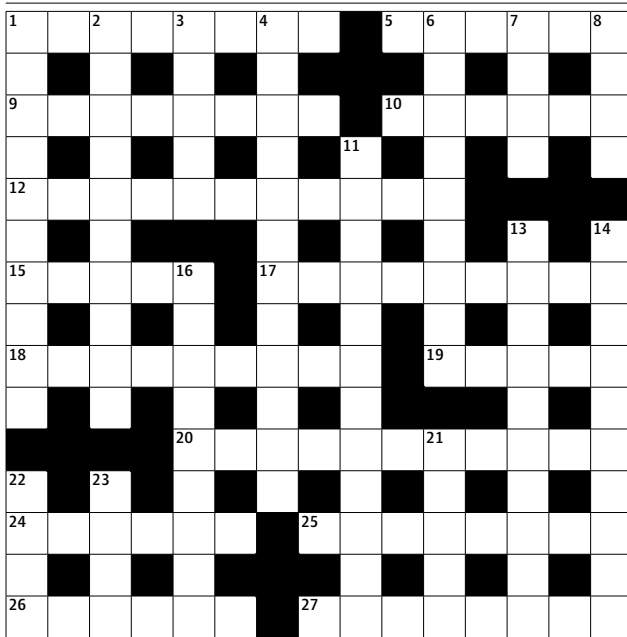


Guardian cryptic crossword



No 25,848 set by Tramp

Across

- 1** Singer's second note in series of 1 down 5? (8)
5 Close to Gordon Brown in recession – No 10 dividing country (6)
9 Secures in advance unfinished press boxes, mostly vacant (3-5)
10 Rings of gold chunks (6)
12 Once more supplied grass without John's partner (11)
15 Copper imprisons idiot (on the contrary) in enlarged cell (5)
17 Drink and drink, cocktail of lager and last bit of wine (6,3)
18 Rate current police cop-pers: no pressure (9)
19,26 Characters in 11 make footballer (5,6)
20 Clubs excite Beatle – Ringo's not old and is at party ... (11)
24 ... Beatle, on Radio 6 – go live outside (6)
25 Plant one in 11 in leaves, so given Alan's tip (8)
26 See 19
27 He doesn't appear in tabloid writer's main dangers (8)

Down

- 1** 3 might move him – with name, he could fly to next Olympics? (5,5)
2 Caffeine reduced in treatment during cold – lack of capacity to work (10)

- 3** Golf in the morning, let me see one playing (5)
4 American series on hospital department initially leaving you in a severe way (12)
6 They shorten game in topless bars (9)
7 Fish catcher? Source of the runs around India (4)
8 Kitchen, Rope, Miss Scarlet – finally a set that fits together (4)
11 Burnt dish – red after cooking show that used 1 down 5? (12)
13 This puts it bluntly, one left Mac to play with Sonic (10)
14 Writer to stuff in names of magical figures (10)
16 Charming Spanish golfer interrupted by Channel 1 (9)
21 Fireball cast? Unusual end from creator of 1 down 5? (5)
22 Hands over in trade (4)
23 Poet Virgil's last letter to head (4)

Solution No. 25,847

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|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|--|
| M | O | N | G | R | E | L | | K | A | I | S | E | R | | | |
| A | E | E | E | | | | | N | U | E | | | | | | |
| C | H | A | S | T | I | T | Y | M | A | S | S | I | F | | | |
| E | T | R | U | A | N | P | I | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | P | E | R | P | E | T | R | A | T | I | O | N | |
| A | S | N | | | | | | T | S | C | A | | | | | |
| C | H | U | R | C | H | G | O | E | R | | I | N | N | | | |
| H | C | H | A | N | T | O | C | | | | | | | | | |
| I | N | K | | T | R | A | D | E | R | O | U | T | E | | | |
| E | I | M | T | | | | | A | S | D | | | | | | |
| V | A | N | T | A | G | E | P | O | I | N | T | | | | | |
| A | G | N | R | D | S | D | A | | | | | | | | | |
| B | Y | P | L | A | Y | | H | O | M | E | L | E | S | S | | |
| L | I | G | | | | | | U | P | L | I | | | | | |
| E | A | G | L | E | T | | | R | E | T | S | I | N | A | | |