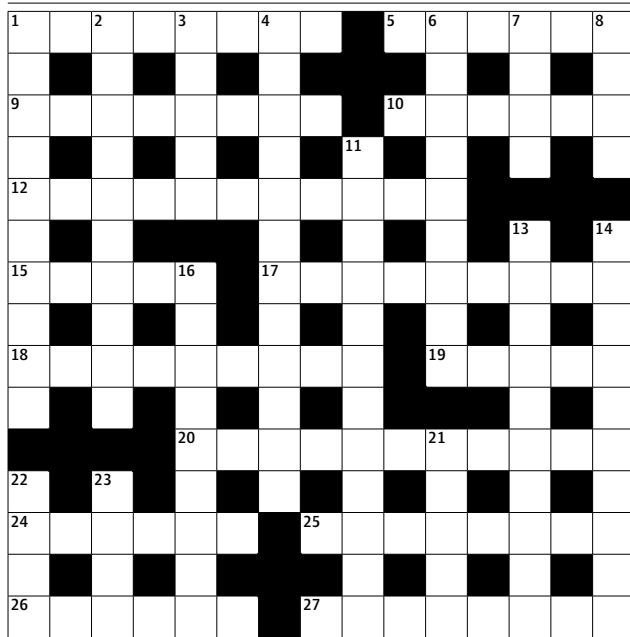


Guardian cryptic crossword



No 25,894 set by Araucaria

Across

- 1 Number a town that's owned by a bulldog (8)
- 5,2 Like 21 22's 13, a possible clue to 26 8 (6,3,7)
- 9 5 2 (all but electronic) produces refusal (2,6)
- 10 Skilled at putting gold back into mine opening (6)
- 12 McKenna's Act with 20? (3,3,5)
- 15 Chat queen's piece gets applause (5)
- 17 Transport backed by heroes turning from much backed animal (9)
- 18 Garment not quite being given away in Australian port (9)
- 19 Enthusiastic volunteering by student from Baltic port (5)
- 20 Boys drink to Conservative, entertaining fellow, one playing records by Queen (3,3,5)
- 24 Disapprove of article (6)
- 25 Turn over state that could be poisonous (8)
- 26 Where monks slept with younger woman, some might say (6)
- 27 Garment for river – come across without one (3,5)

Down

- 1 Fizzy drinks for foal changing sound system (5,3-2)

2 See 5

- 3 22's length of pitch (5)
- 4 Don't be so quick with a prison sentence after oak tree crashed around my head (4,4,4)
- 6 Bucks village deceived by another with studio (9)
- 7 Speed of marriage? (4)
- 8 Infestation of fools? (4)
- 11 Small cafe, revolutionary, getting on in crescent (12)
- 13 Thirsty? Swallow one drink (3,7)
- 14 Strategic placing of some loyal people in small section (10)
- 16 It's agony to listen to stiff upper lip, perhaps (9)
- 21,22 Fictional agent in sticky situation, no beds available (5,4)
- 23 More or less open for a drink (4)

Solution No. 25,893

