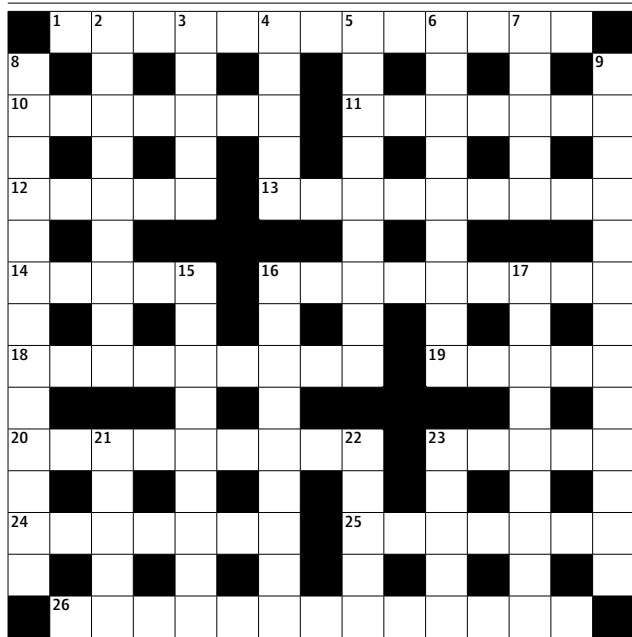


Guardian cryptic crossword



No 25,897 set by Enigmatist

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 25,897, 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 25 March.

Across

- 1 Immediacy of presents (3,4,3,3)
- 10 Wearing electronic tag, BBC boss's mate arriving here soon? (7)
- 11 One-nil, wobbling, power through fully! (2,5)
- 12 Well-rounded objection backing Times (5)
- 13 Special cryptic crossword setters being granted the gift of healing (9)
- 14 Women wanting just about anything by author (5)
- 16 Read all about technique America's adopting – endless variety ... "Read all about it" here! (4,5)
- 18 ABC or D Terminus? There's confusion here (9)
- 19 Rubbish pile accommodates last of timber (5)
- 20 Work out Hucknall's band's backing on old record I cover (9)
- 23 Tree with horse secured (5)
- 24 Clear The Jam's summer screening, though opening is missed (7)
- 25 Regressive delay introducing new vitamin (7)
- 26 A French Romantic's treble casseroles with chorizo (6,7)

Down

- 2 Bigoted scoundrel great Indian spinner turns in (9)
- 3 Exciting the lady, going topless (5)
- 4 Had misgivings about a dance (5)

- 5 Friends, maybe, trapped by rising water any way (2,2,5)
- 6 Blue act newspapers got hold of (9)
- 7 Needing to believe, see printed signs (5)
- 8 Having cut sideways through deep mud, sadly not a picture of health! (5,6,2)
- 9 Square on the kisser the old girl's caught sovereign, _ ! (13)
- 15 Resolve "Allardyce Sacked" headline? (6,3)
- 16 Warwick was keg man rolling in dry white wine and cassis (9)
- 17 A little reading up of Hood, now Keats, a show of open-handedness and high kicks? (3,4,2)
- 21 As the Chelsea manager might say before/after sacking, Lampard principally out to inspire (5)
- 22 Man with knife amputating leg well up (5)
- 23 Honey-eater subsequently crossing wings (5)

Solution No. 25,896

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