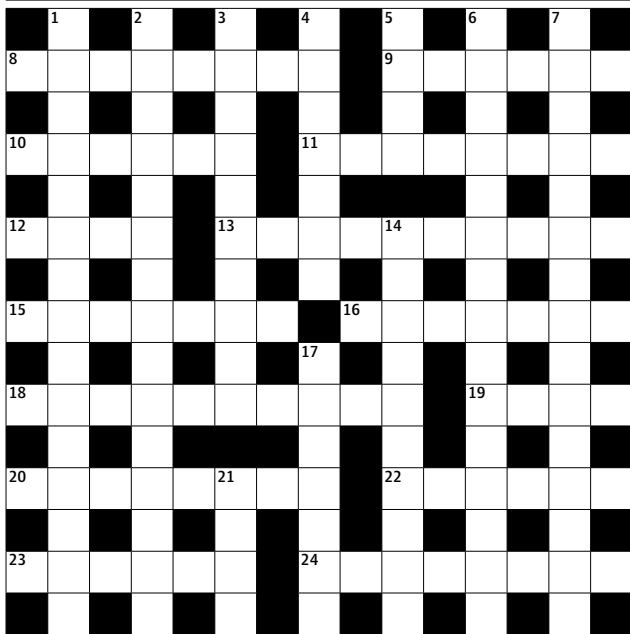


# Guardian cryptic crossword



No 25,903 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 25,903, 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 1 April.

## Across

- 8** Abundance of crystals treating ailments (4,4)  
**9,4** 14 for weak old lions, perhaps? (6,7)  
**10** Mother leaves African country via an African native (6)  
**11** Urgent: couple of Latins getting frisky in clandestine love affair (8)  
**12** See 19  
**13** Recall wee teddy's head cuddled by minor, producing comforting words (5,5)  
**15** Ride through change in Oxford or Cambridge, possibly? (7)  
**16** Describing lung membranes, soft with questionable allure (7)  
**18** Strain, say, behind party rivalry (10)  
**19,12** Start lap dancing, showing tail? (4,4)  
**20** Elegant, idly swimming in water (8)  
**22** Deliver key to open road in Paris (6)  
**23** Endless siren in sacred chant (6)  
**24** A fish going backwards around little island in the Caribbean (8)

## Down

- 1,21** It's one of my 14s, but did I perceive

something of the others? (3,2,1,3,2,1,3,1,3)

- 2** 14 – Japanese model is what it is? (1,7,1,6)  
**3** Saint Paul's man, perhaps, finding one with Saint Martin extremely unreliable (10)  
**4** See 9  
**5** Two articles taken from a Volkswagen, over here! (4)  
**6** One of two is introduced to popular water sport, making one distinctive (15)  
**7** Drink containing Irish water servant's left for traditional food (10,5)  
**14** One is drawn onward (10)  
**17** Fib about alcoholic drink being one that's non-alcoholic? (7)  
**21** See 1

Solution No. 25,902

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