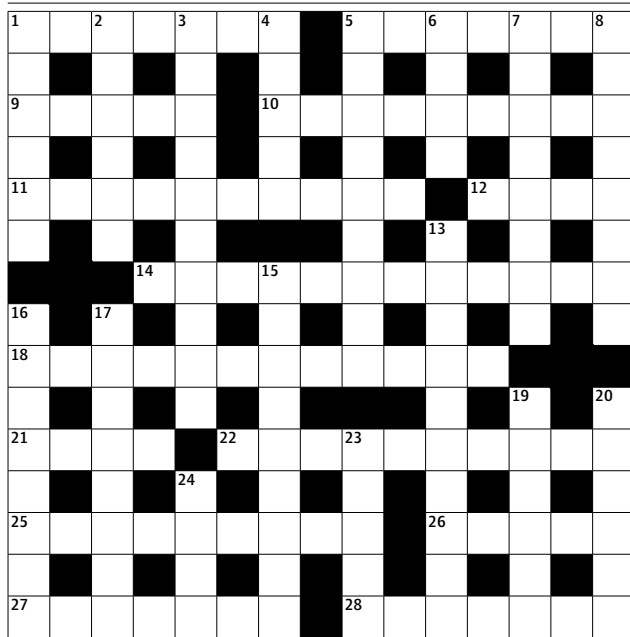


Guardian cryptic crossword



No 25,907 set by Paul

Across

- 1 Old Italian PM describing love, having caught twins in leather (7)
- 5 Sharp work recalled in poet Hughes (7)
- 9 Hold breath, drawing in last of air (5)
- 10 Old queen for whom clear bandages stretch too much (9)
- 11 Port right behind organ saving animal, one fighting for an environmental cause (3-7)
- 12 Gas explosion with fuse, both ends lit (4)
- 14 Chamber stood for reform, not fighting (4,2,6)
- 18 Labour leader breaking old British PM's nose, you might say, showing proof of fitness (4,2,6)
- 21 Vulgar youth listening to TV? (4)
- 22 Kitchen implement keeping one on seat, baby calmer? (5,5)
- 25 Chain Hitler's men required to restrain old comedian (9)
- 26 One not putting down roots, no bananas (5)
- 27 Support a black and white drink that's knocked over (7)
- 28 Dirty old Italian well blocked with odd bits of sock (7)

Down

- 1 See 20
- 2 Logic not referring to a daughter then? (6)
- 3 Mushroom ring shining on group of whales – or squid, say? (10)

- 4 Scent: __ Cologne, we hear? (5)
- 5 Quiet man, he struggling to get to grips with uprising one wonders? (9)
- 6 Dislike assembling parts? Don't go there! (4)
- 7 Classic body, nothing less, there getting jiggly (3,5)
- 8 Greek character seen going north, set off (8)
- 13 Rest more than enough to secure promotion to the Premiership? A thousand banked (5,5)
- 15 Clear – ship must turn round (9)
- 16 A degree – is it the value of a coordinate? (8)
- 17 Top of chest, part receiving admiring glances, for starters (8)
- 19 Block, one accommodating me, inferior to farm building (6)
- 20,1 Unfortunate gift, greed – man, one's attracted to the food store! (6,6)
- 23 Bugger duck sauce! (5)
- 24 Late news, in short? (4)

Solution No. 25,906

