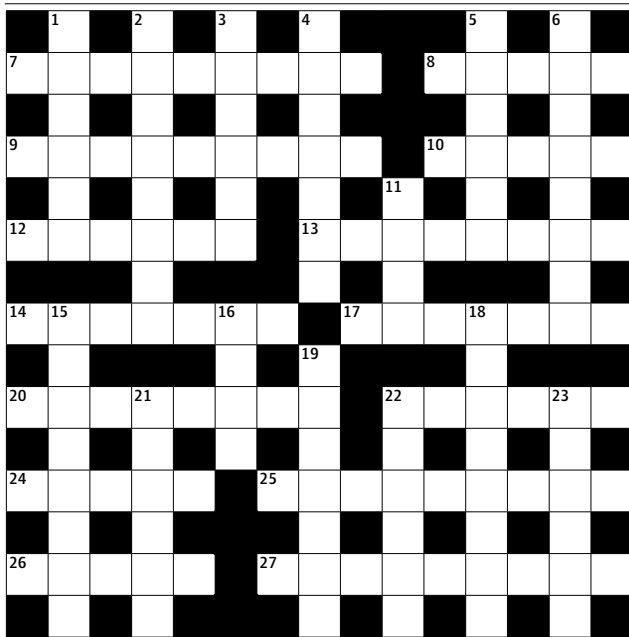


# Guardian cryptic crossword



No 25,940 set by Rufus

### Across

- 7 In high spirits, using once socially accepted form of banter (9)
- 8 Where to keep one's hose readily available (2,3)
- 9 Terry does badly in this craft (9)
- 10 An author's sources (5)
- 12 Extraordinary deed is opposed to current trends (6)
- 13 Denial in the form of no eating (8)
- 14 In which a performer has to take a bow (7)
- 17 When to tuck in? (7)
- 20 A measure of a pick-pocket's credit (8)
- 22 Report some soldiers delayed (6)
- 24 Sort of snake in the grass (5)
- 25 A good man to torment for the latest news (4,5)
- 26 Main meal without a starter? It won't please this man (5)
- 27 Elitist minority (6,3)

### Down

- 1 Outmatch former top tennis player, say (6)
- 2 Slightly well off? That's absurd (1,3,4)
- 3 New wars or old weapons (6)

- 4 Fail to draw positive conclusions from Dante's work (7)
- 5 Possibly fly in group (6)
- 6 Where everybody goes in to sweep around the floor (8)
- 11 He's a monster – and so regressive! (4)
- 15 Ruling concerning double gin cocktails (8)
- 16 Defeat in game at home (4)
- 18 Learnt to become easy-going (8)
- 19 Sailing boat seen in seaway in extremis – it's rough (7)
- 21 Let off for free day (6)
- 22 About to sit and take it easy (6)
- 23 States change – so do these (6)

Winners of prize puzzle 25,933

