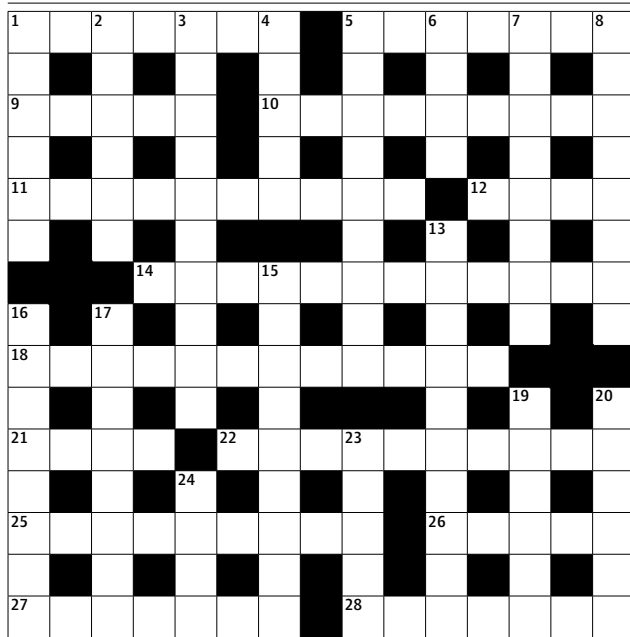


# Guardian cryptic crossword



No 25,941 set by Paul

## Across

- 1 Charged item almost consuming deficit, so thrive (7)
- 5 Film star's last drink almost producing wind (7)
- 9 Place rings close to golden ring (5)
- 10 Vehicle wound round a bird (6,3)
- 11 Was there nothing Ginger Spice accomplished that's musical? (10)
- 12 Knife initially piercing Chinese red shark (4)
- 14 L for Lansbury, long ago? (6,6)
- 18 Frank feeling nothing, man tucking into dessert (5-2-5)
- 21 Early expression from baby's movement (4)
- 22 Lack of detail yet in Elgar's variations (10)
- 25 Wind in vet, behind producing air (9)
- 26,7 Stone deep in earth kids played with (5,8)
- 27 See 6
- 28 Canonisations without pickled onions, devilish (7)

## Down

- 1 Kind granny's ultimate drink (6)
- 2 Exaggerate content of book about composer, no end (6)
- 3 Order papers on music, dance, etc, extra bits (5,5)

- 4 Christ with Noah booted genius (5)
- 5 Spice Girl on tour topless, one topless in Australia (9)
- 6,27 Ounce – or oodles with prawn crackers (4,7)
- 7 See 26
- 8 Pig in fat gets left of old (8)
- 13 Risk holding onto reserve when stock prices are falling (4,6)
- 15 Where you can count up to five, for example (2,3,4)
- 16 Dispense with nefarious vixen (3-5)
- 17 Dance where canine bites joiner on middle of groin (8)
- 19 Individual giant houses for Renaissance man (6)
- 20 Paul's fat bottom wiped – fabulous! (6)
- 23 Chance in rugby game to get head ripped off (5)
- 24 Capital invested in sugar, I gathered (4)

Solution No. 25,940

