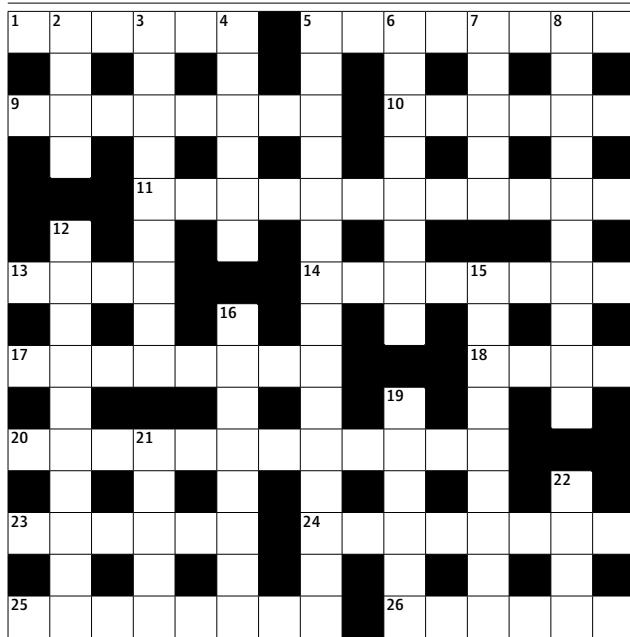


Guardian cryptic crossword



No 25,960 set by Paul

Across

- 1 Grub knocked back, American fool (6)
- 5 Keen perception in place of old stories? (8)
- 9 Grain was short in promotion, creating competition among retailers (5,3)
- 10 Pronounced as “ven-son”? I haven’t a clue! (2,4)
- 11 Jolly good to punch Hitler, hated terribly (5-7)
- 13 Sport to sell, as a rugby ball’s passed? (4)
- 14 Recklessly determined man, fast pocketing pound (4-4)
- 17 Ten was poorly invested in money for boater (8)
- 18 Some news, a bit of excitement (4)
- 20 Reproduce artist, say, for the royal issue (8,4)
- 23 Determined to get female eating horse, then surprised ultimately (6)
- 24 Wear thin pants, exposing one’s private parts (2,3,3)
- 25 Face ship holding an inferno back (8)
- 26 Intent to try returning dairy product (6)

Down

- 2 Vegetable fine with radish, wanting plate (4)
- 3 Information including dossier written up for surgical operations (4-5)
- 4 Amount of money earned in the City? That stinks! (6)
- 5 Namely lab animal caught, having paws to smell as scent tested (7-3-5)
- 6 Taking great care, trap left for man in the country (8)
- 7 Person yelling “Score!” in ear, off and on (5)
- 8 The display involving uranium is beneath that (10)
- 12 Clap hands initially on ogre, or a deviant (10)
- 15 Breakfast item that can’t be beaten? (6,3)
- 16 One’s days are numbered (8)
- 19 Conceited, not living with pigs? (6)
- 21 Spiced drink, say, drunk by setter, not going down (5)
- 22 Fish surviving wife? (4)

Solution No. 25,959

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