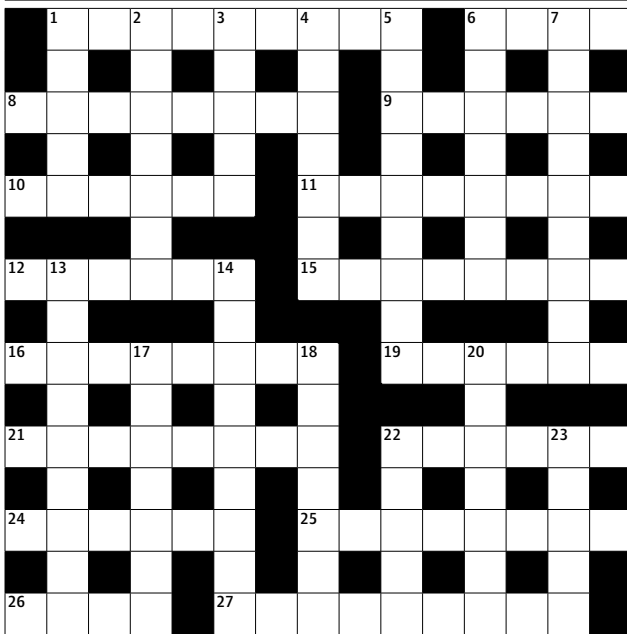


Guardian cryptic crossword



No 25,971 set by Paul

Across

- 1** Tragic, winning my game? (9)
6 Thaw out, eh? (4)
8 Country with possible 21: slee _ snow? (8)
9 Honeysuckle primarily in yellowish drink (6)
10 12 B 21? (6)
11 Black line's radius, different rings in the news? (8)
12,7 Cheerful 21? (6,3,6)
15 Huge winger, fat, tackling half-cut criminal (8)
16 Old newspapers for old daily, perhaps? (8)
19 I'm going past organ carrying book (3-3)
21 See much natural growth sustaining account in recession (8)
22,22down 21 wanted? (3,3,5)
24,6down A noted 21? (6,7)
25 Every so often lunch again spoiled, seeing piece of loose skin (8)
26 In red: a mild cheese (4)
27 Rarely failing, expert passing competition (5,4)

Down

- 1** Hard to plug druggie as guide (5)
2 S-sick sport (7)
3 Online drink, low (5)
4 Loose end isn't for notches (7)
5 Modern eatery's good Mars bar? (9)
6 See 24
7 See 12
13 Brought up again, sort of related (9)
14 Someone playing to pen male whose teeth cut as adventurer (3,6)
17 Article more unlikely, it being unproven? (7)
18 Placed bottom, football team lacking the water carrier (7)
20 Country with an East End Charlton, Iraq, oddly? (7)
22 See 22 across
23 Green water rising (5)

Solution No. 25,970

