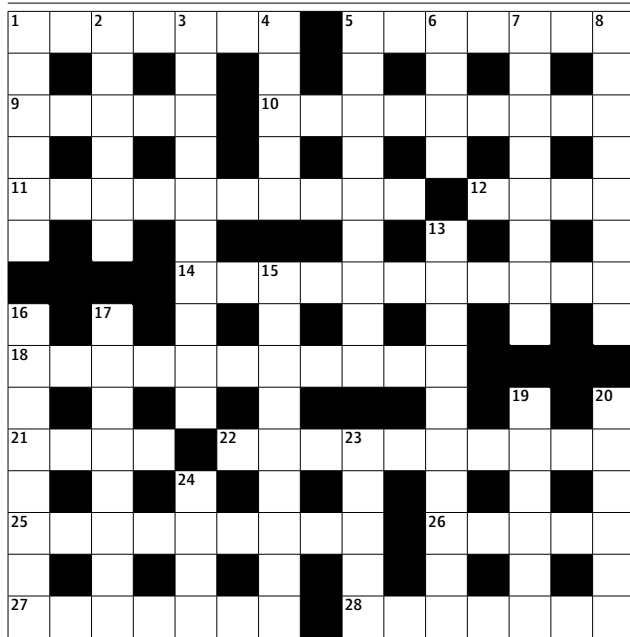


Guardian cryptic crossword



No 25,975 set by Puck

The first five correct entries drawn each week win Guardian Style and Secrets of the Setters, worth £28.99.

Entries to: The Guardian Crossword No 25,975, P.O. Box 6603, Birmingham, B26 3PR, or Fax to 0121-742 1313 by first post on Friday. Solution and winners in the Guardian on Monday 24 June.

6's 11: 6 12 24 28, starting 1 down 23 in 13

Across

- 1 A 28 visit Greek 20 to "grow together" (7)
- 5 Catholics disparagingly said to be sanctimonious in earlier times (7)
- 9 Billy's relatives attempt a way back (5)
- 10 Ban writing in bed? On the contrary (9)
- 11 Drug-fuelled Madness member into mad idea (10)
- 12 See 6
- 14 Personifying two setters, vocalise strangled cat on record (11)
- 18 Heaving cleavage in front of large, born-again Christian? (11)
- 21 Related to 9's leader, this 6 is 13's top one (4)
- 22 Bill has one horse? Not the case for bums (10)
- 25 Runner, last of four to get TV role (9)
- 26 Grub of spectacular variety (5)
- 27 Some guts by cricket side to go in first (7)
- 28 See 24

Down

- 1 Grand Emperor's ignoring us (6)
- 2,20 Where Father Ted was caught with raging gays, darling (6,6)
- 3 Seasonal fare in 8, cooked by galley slave originally (6,4)

- 4 Old Irishman, one living abroad (5)
- 5 New Cypriot zoo lacks one unknown type of primitive animal (9)
- 6,12 Annual event for the Irish setter (nothing at all Irish) (4,4)
- 7 Indian hunters trek endlessly in their women's clothes (8)
- 8 Emasculated creature facing eternity where the poor Titanic passengers nightly lay (8)
- 13 Place in West of Kerry one left rolling drunk? (10)
- 15 Some final changes for a 20 (4,2,3)
- 16 Audacity shown by Bill wearing the French woman's jewellery (8)
- 17 Wood panelling of cask cut in two, accidentally (8)
- 19 Wrong route, right car (6)
- 20 See 2
- 23 Fraction of wine used by hotel (5)
- 24,28 Odd bits of invective needed – for this CD, that is (4,7)

Solution No. 25,974

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