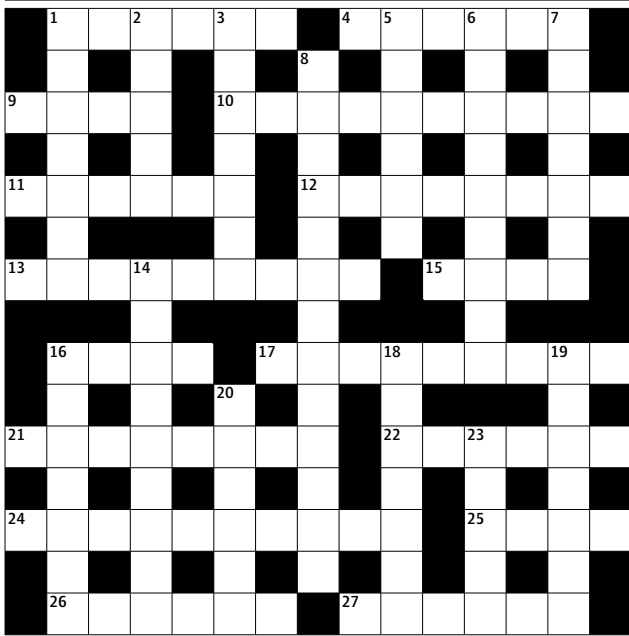


Guardian cryptic crossword



No 26,014 set by Paul

Across

- 1 Squirm, making dog endlessly fetch (6)
- 4,21 Book leaving Doctor of Divinity into theologies unmoved? (3,3,8)
- 9 Business cracking in image (4)
- 10 What is written in the first half of November? (5,5)
- 11 European capital I appreciate that encapsulates the nation (6)
- 12,6 Excruciating listening to a brat on television starting out – here? (8,3,6)
- 13 Gift: English wine, drained (9)
- 15 Surrender a month after retreat, end of battle (4)
- 16,1down Soft stuff, romance, for Tarantino film (4,7)
- 17 Gibbons' thing to have dined in US city, informally (9)
- 21 See 4
- 22 Leave precious little time to collect piano (6)
- 24 16 across 1 down pre-qualified? (10)
- 25 Something I force backwards (4)
- 26 Cashier, the sneak? (6)
- 27 Meal has gone by rouge lips (6)

Down

- 1 See 16 across
- 2 See 23

- 3 Catch last of criminals in Queens after uprising (7)
- 5 Wind thatch around books (3,3)
- 6 See 12
- 7 Poet reserves minutes 31-60 for old comic (7)
- 8 "Fat-faced" as is a synonym of "bottoms up"? (6-7)
- 14 Foul drunk about to look threatening under Conservative leader, so rich (9)
- 16 Clown I offend, punching stomach (7)
- 18 Character not quite securing promotion for less than charming girl (7)
- 19 Most great least great, only 40% off (7)
- 20 O for a group of friends, perhaps? (6)
- 23,2 Difficult woman in the years before the Material Girl, say? (5,5)

Solution No. 26,013

