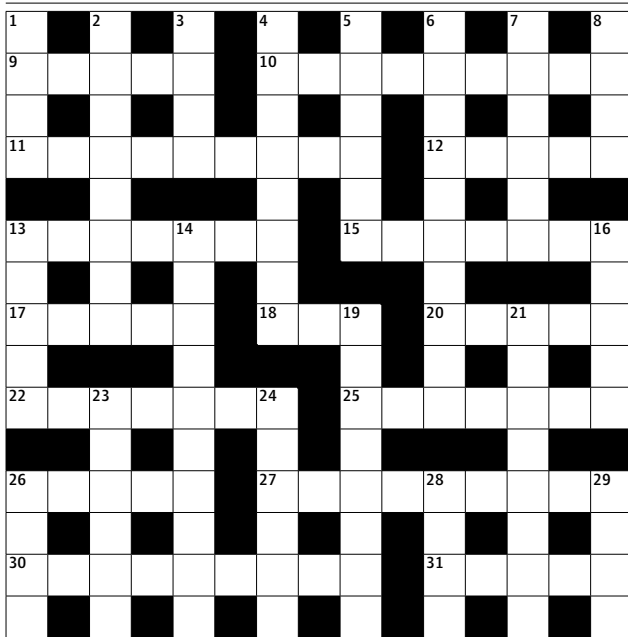


Guardian cryptic crossword



No 26,046 set by Paul

Across

- 9** One so thick-skinned audibly mocking foreign drama (5)
10 Rash above the neck inflamed, then? (3-6)
11 Child in Israel misconstrued polymath (9)
12 No unpleasant type rejected an unusual cat (5)
13 Submissive prodigal son comes first (7)
15 L batting during innings (7)
17 Centre with C central to empty speaking? (5)
18 Pity endless sex at a stag party? (3)
20 Every so often, find old queen for drone (5)
22 C, half-cut Bush, for example, gatecrashing his party? (7)
25 After a very close shave, gain for C (7)
26 L – some dictatorial bastard from the right? (5)
27 Sect suffering for C (9)
30 Much offending staff about Paul's prayer to follow (5,4)
31 Substance ultimately found in tree, one type of resin (5)

Down

- 1** Uplifting tune after a song (4)
2 L – obsolete party and I'm flipping leading it! (8)
3 L to pay (4)
4 C – parliament's ultimate mother hen? (8)

- 5** Totally exposed, run end of spear into cut (6)
6 Ancient celebration, beautiful game ends anagrammatically for this year's crossword anniversary? (10)
7 Among extremists in archipelago I wander northwards slowly (6)
8 C's Project? (4)
13 Author up tree (5)
14 Render bite when barking, as cross (10)
16 Passage from paperback or another good book (5)
19 Rotate bum not entirely designed for stool (8)
21 Pierce organ, as would Spooner for Moses (8)
23 Malicious type given bad name, that is (6)
24 Auditor's drunk a golden drink (6)
26 Dollar leap (4)
28 Cook red beef, not an insect (4)
29 Put down "plus room" for C? (4)

Solution No. 26,045

