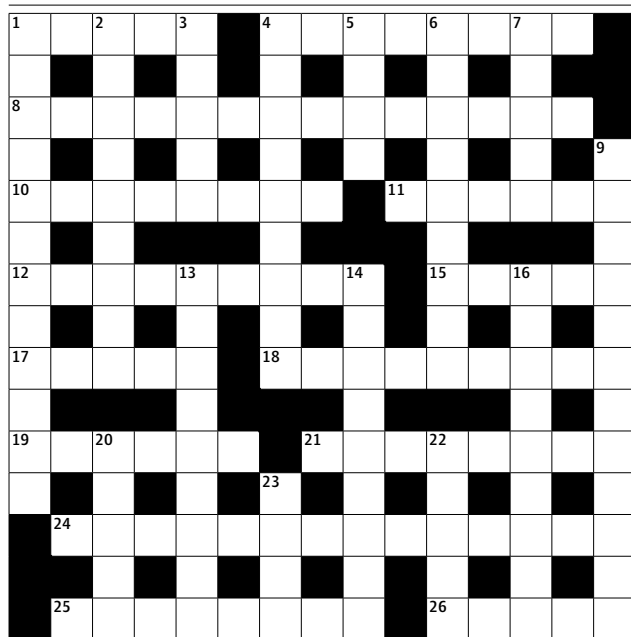


Guardian cryptic crossword



No 26,058 set by Nutmeg

Across

- 1 Illicitly take a companion on river (5)
- 4 Cool suit – evidence of celebrity status? (3,5)
- 8 Dilapidated dockland garage with intriguing air (5-3-6)
- 10 Old councillors' last word about backing Socialist line (8)
- 11 Eight gallons almost drained, little left (6)
- 12 Self-centred stoic, eg perversely holds it back (9)
- 15 Sediment deposited around West Sussex town (5)
- 17 Polar explorer's troubled, so going back outside (5)
- 18 Ancient chief shut up, having become tedious (9)
- 19 Brood in centre of tree, conifer (6)
- 21 Leading publicity about one paramedic's task (5,3)
- 24 Wren at sea, say, one designing ships (5,9)
- 25 In final stage Nutmeg (female) caught up (8)
- 26 Makes simpler terms for tenants, using no Latin (5)

Down

- 1 Cook's speciality involved great soup and endless cake (7,5)
- 2 Short vessel carrying merchandise (brick) (1,4,4)
- 3 Walker greeting bishop leaving the pavement edge (5)
- 4 One type of police search means the end for Pinkie, perhaps (9)
- 5 Bare elbow lacking a touch of glamour (4)
- 6 Cricket side, one attracting trickster (3-6)
- 7 Wood – famous conductor taking morning off (5)
- 9 100 unlucky in love? It's too late to enquire after them (7,5)
- 13 Hint Tunisian criminal gave at last (9)
- 14 Cable serving under Tory and finally brought round (9)
- 16 Those responsible for changing locks in the theatre? (3-6)
- 20 Man on board eating right kind of seafood (5)
- 22 French boy's looking up meaning of "gunk" (5)
- 23 Cocky Republican ignored party (4)

Solution No. 26,057

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