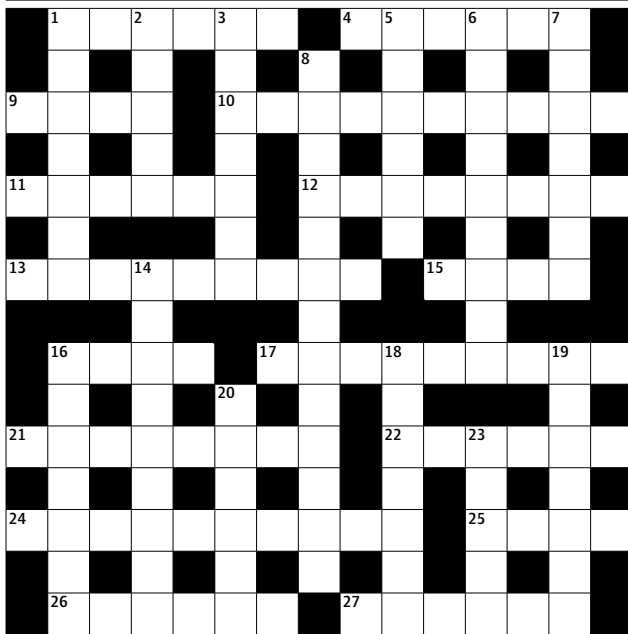


Guardian cryptic crossword



No 26,059 set by Paul

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 26,059, 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 30 September.

Across

- 1 Cut through mole, being careless (6)
- 4,19 Goat and mouse 23 (6,7)
- 9 Swallowed by frog, left eye (4)
- 10 Meat in Indian less hot, dish recalled as 23 starter (5,5)
- 11 Instrument cutting grain husks, finding substance in wheat (6)
- 12 Give a little, as winning (8)
- 13 Excellent tie stolen by drunk (3,6)
- 15 Resolution, coarse stuff (4)
- 16,3 23, as in pot scoffed by Greek character (4,7)
- 17 This served with 23 that's yellow in heap (5,4)
- 21 Orderly present, man finally tucked into bed (8)
- 22 Ultimately, project cold, not the right plan (6)
- 24 Evidence of BSE with half of bacon 23 (4,6)
- 25 Scoundrel leaves, one gathers (4)
- 26 Saw always dividing pipe (6)
- 27 Understanding shown by any sort of African (6)

Down

- 1 Epic place to go for a 23 (3,4)
- 2 Patent done before end of contract (5)
- 3 See 16 across
- 5 Lacking leadership, trouble afoot for traditional Labour allies (6)
- 6 Fixed rate more reliable for the one with the money (9)
- 7 Once more welcome to postpone commercial breaks (7)
- 8 Shop assistants resist charges for renovation (4,9)
- 14 Male ego in Lady Gaga, one's flighty but delicate (9)
- 16 One in ecstasy after heading off prowler (7)
- 18 Entertainer performing satire about the end of Marat (7)
- 19 See 4
- 20 Keep film in water (6)
- 23 Treat skin that's hot (5)

Solution No. 26,058

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