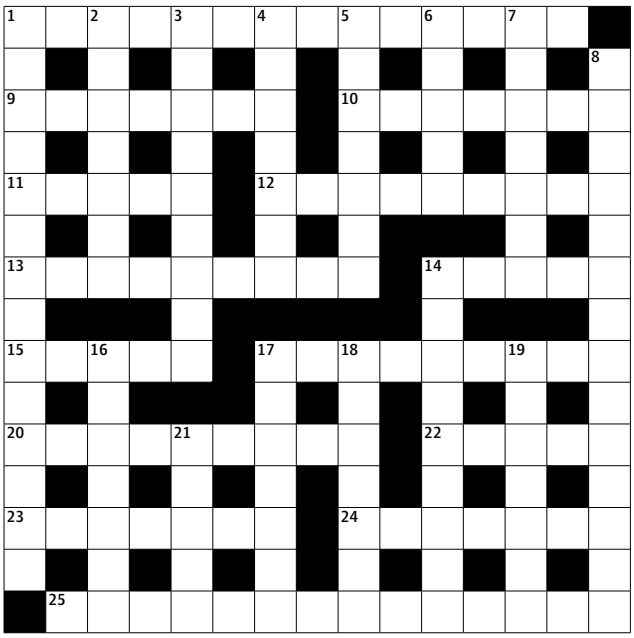
Guardian cryptic crossword



No 26,083 set by Araucaria

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 26,083, 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 28 October.

Across

1 Poke one's nose into group of servicemen with a candid humour, leading to hospital (4,6,4)
9 Action that doesn't take place in Union St (7)
10 Robin's mate's second in one increase? (7)
11 Give up the harvest (5)
12 Transporter (not car) in chart designed by ship's captain (9)
13 Mention of a mechanical piece in the isthmus (9)
14 Norman ruler starts to be added to the jackpot (5)
15 Complaint as of the "murmuring of innumerable bees"? (5)
17 Reduce status of dog warden? (9)
20 Indian city's veto on quantity (9)
22 Compare plant with symbiotic fungus, say (5)
23 Sort of box for little gentlemen in trouble (7)
24 An island at back of Russian girl (7)
25 See 6

Down

1 What generates interest is Araucaria's home hosting one old Greek king (5,2,3,4)
2 Ray to be replacing Rhode Island in Dutch Guiana (7)
3 Awfully cute little quadruplets that hold 6 (9)
4 6 animal loses tail and so on turning up inside with a group (7)
5 Get a taste of ink in the club? (7)
6,25 Deterrent rebid, Waugh's work for passing time? (5,5,3,6)
7 Vehicle submerged in a sea of lost umbrellas (7)
8 See 21
14 Cycle of duty with pistol has backing (of body?) (9)
16 Meat in the oven is only half cooked (7)
17 Medicine man should be here as rainmaker? (7)
18 Fight with the French after peace (7)
19 Embarrassed by prize that contains little power (7)
21,8 Freefone between Alison and Theodore, a new arrangement in the first home to which the marines marched (1,4,2,3,5,4)

Solution No. 26,082