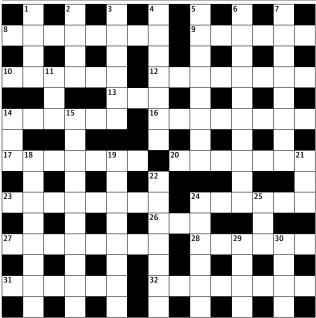
## **Guardian cryptic crossword**



No 26,087 set by Gordius

## Across

- 8 It's OK for youngsters, but not for when we're getting on (8)
- **9** Sauce not right with a prophet (6)
- 10 You can bet here's a misdemeanour in company
- 12 Man of rank struggled with endless greatness
- 13 Bath chaps reflect some local feature (3)
- 14 In time, bad type could do with correction (6)
- **16** Prince shortly named over regarding curved surfaces (8)
- 17 Wherein I might have been patriotic, but you end ferocious (7)
- **20** Weather in 17 before it changed going to eastern country (7)
- 23 Difficulty of getting label for minced horse? (8)
- 24 12 with lonely hearts? (6)
- **26** Epidemic brought back from the Gulf (3)
- 27 Average pest said to produce irrational fear (8)
- 28 Strong ham, as 79 of 12,087 (6)
- 31 Private words, as over a party (6)
- **32** Dial can be cool (4-4)

## Down

- 1 State doubly likely in the elderly? (4)
- 2 Tragic heroine in opera, mostly parody (4)

- 3 Snack for prophet in Salvation Army (6)
- **4** Seems artificial silver in cable, say (7)
- **5** Annual time to arrest (8)
- 6 Army officer gives assistance on point to make off (4-2-4)
- 7 Hang about with a Scot from Africa (8) "Gentleman" is upright
- **14** Decline of Thatcherite released from bird (3)
- 15 Pudding gobbled, drawback later (10)
- 18 Practise 21 in rising Surrey town (8)
- **19** Ocean mount? (3,5)
- 21 Attention is part of learning (3)
- 22 It occurs to a shadow minister to keep notes (7)
- **24** Bird's taken in by brash advertisement (6)
- 25 Indulge in huff (3)
- **29** Copper live, solid and regular (4)
- **30** Island loses little time over whales (4)

Solution No. 26,086

