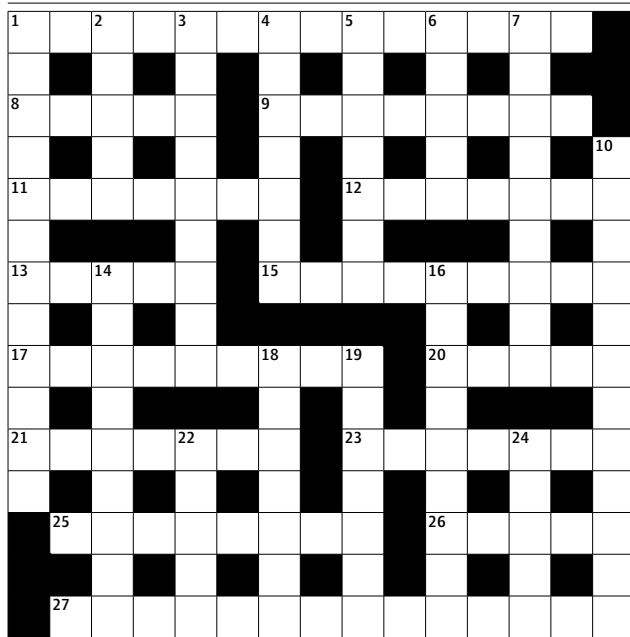


# Guardian cryptic crossword



No 26,106 set by Paul

## Across

- 1 In a word, very long joke is in a sense laid out (14)
- 8 Happy with goal, flip (5)
- 9 Meeting place has unconvincing charm, meeting Jack (8)
- 11 Indian city in stupid drawing (7)
- 12 Unsuitable intro erased from funny peculiar copy (7)
- 13 Into drink, relatives cut down – as should he? (5)
- 15 Primitive weapon used to catch snake is cheating (9)
- 17 Provocative material including first of data on a monster flagged up? (3,6)
- 20 Author returns to pen good, classical letter (5)
- 21 Model is old enough (7)
- 23,4 Pussy warmer in bed? A wonderful thing! (3,4,7)
- 25 A treetop – make short work of it (8)
- 26 An elderly lady, Ms Widdcombe denied, pissed off (5)
- 27 See 26 (5-9)

## Down

- 1 Gait that's broken at high speed? (5,7)
- 2 Going up in aeroplane, I see an Italian city (5)
- 3 As opposed to the "upon Tyne" of Newcastle, might Durham be pants? (9)

4 See 23

- 5 Roman coins red, an odd couple (7)
- 6 Abatement in partner of la ewe? (3-2)
- 7 I commit a crime wearing a medal – it's painful (9)
- 10 Many get disease primarily from glands, unfortunately, in noted epidemic (7,5)
- 14 One snatching another fish and eaten up (9)
- 16 Decay beginning to show in hideous couple (9)
- 18 Bigger kitchen utensil, by the sound of it (7)
- 19 Less than my fair share? I couldn't agree more! (3,4)
- 22 On course, what's expected is a romantic location (5)
- 24 Element into pornography, but not going down (5)

Solution No. 26,105

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