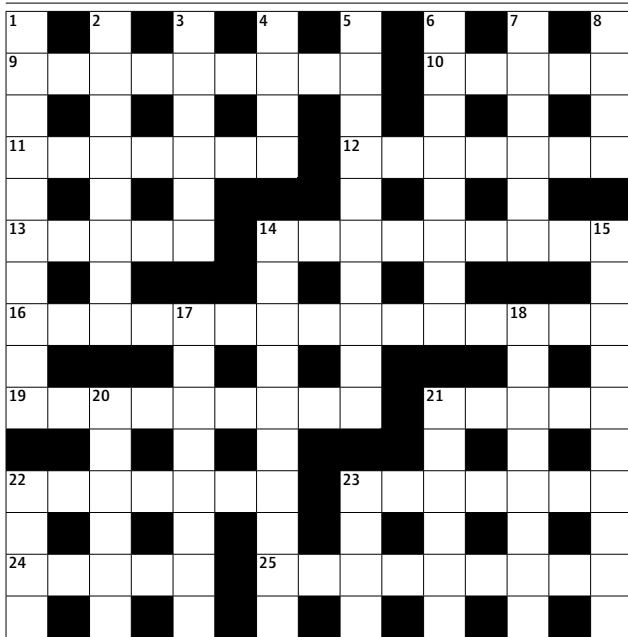


# Guardian cryptic crossword



No 26,109 set by Puck

## Across

- 9 Around time a silent 'a' affected 13 (9)
- 10 Component of fast racing car (5)
- 11 Setter observed by hearing or sight (7)
- 12 George Eliot was one in a million into pasta (3-4)
- 13 Meal with ends of spare rib (5)
- 14 One searching thoroughly gets answer in TV series? Not initially (9)
- 16 Golfer lists family members following behind imp and trickster (15)
- 19 Striptease and other bawdy stuff, as naughty sequel to back massage (9)
- 21 Instrument not working for Italian singer (5)
- 22 Port in Czech Republic initially allowing free passage for musician? (7)
- 23 Ready to join firm with established income earner (4,3)
- 24 One to measure up (5)
- 25 Three-faced male doctor within hearing (9)

## Down

- 1 Setter ordered horse for homeless child (6,4)
- 2 Murder an unorthodox sort of bowling (8)
- 3 Prisoner might get this job as secretary? (6)
- 4 Country base that is without a castle (4)

- 5 Bad press? No setter's inclined to answer (10)
- 6 Male with stamina rigged part of boat (8)
- 7 Go for tips from Clark Kent after a time looking in the mirror (6)
- 8 A villain finally turning up on the fifth dimension's fourth hub (4)
- 14 Gem of a girl, unknown to drink two pints (4,6)
- 15 Raw duck's foot, cooked with almond in a haphazard series of steps (6,4)
- 17 Some hesitation in retrospectively entering painter's age (8)
- 18 A little hair of the dog consumed by X last of all (4,4)
- 20 Party held by cat is gatecrashed by fellow creature (3,3)
- 21 Something of use after "black dog" (6)
- 22 Stuff for starters cooked with butter (4)
- 23 Cut and blow (4)

Solution No. 26,108

