

No 26,129 set by Boatman

## **Guardian cryptic crossword**

Note added 2 January 2014: The correct clue for 3 down was not originally uploaded.

## Across

- 1,15 Long odds of tango and cha-cha foes dancing together (1,5,2,1,6) 5 See 10
- **8** Awful, stumbling hag on dance programme missing trick, you say? (7)
- 9 Harass people involved in wrongdoing (7)
- **11** Much to-do from zealotry at heart, on and on, using psychic powers on dead? (1,3,2,4,5)
- 12 See 10
- 13 Communicate with those we miss, who bequeath £10? (5,1,4)
- 17 It's not vital to get tipsy from potion (2,2,6)
- 18 Seance appears really inexplicable at first but, as you say, it's a fabrication! (4)
- 20 Blame the frost? He's upset about a Xmas bloom (4,2,9)
- 23 Morse, perhaps, out in sound and vision (7)
- 24 Hollowly beatify dead souls? From the start, let them be (7)
- 25 Phantoms from below, heralded by sulphur (6)
- 26 Number (one transcending 50) and one of its qualities (6)

## Down

- 2 '70s rock instrument used in Wales (9)
- 3 Perhaps put Boatman in work – a lot of it! (6)

- 4 Back pointless meeting: the man is after nothing? That's a record (3,2,4)
- 5 It returns the part the Church keeps (5)
- 6 French perhaps sing solver's one anthem (8)
- 7 Irrigation for Zimbabwe at last: an answer to prayers sent up (5)
- 8 Creepy ghoul eats beast, exploits socially unacceptable growth promoted here (11)
- 10,5across,12 Solver taking on psychic sees, as might appear hazily, the power of subliminal suggestion (3, 6, 2, 3, 7)
- 14 After victory, reconstruct (liberate outright) (9) 15 See 1
- 16 Presented headless first, it's said, for the dead came back (8)
- **19** Soaring mountain road missing from visitant's haunt (6)
- **21** A historic drink at pub (5) 22 Potions said to cause livid hue (5)

Solution No. 26,128

