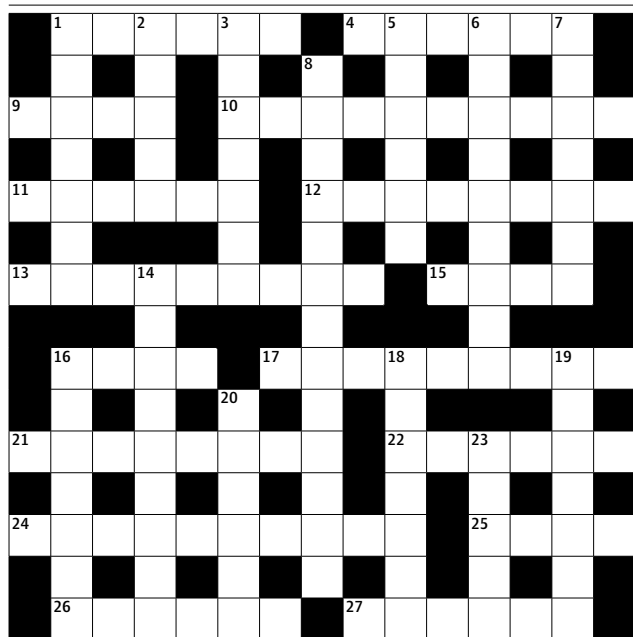


## Guardian cryptic crossword



No 26,152 set by Paul

### Across

- 1,27** One's taken to court to crush illegal activity (6,6)  
**4** One of two circles, one left to turn around (6)  
**9,25** Totally reliable friend endlessly quaffing drink (4-4)  
**10** Aubrey's work as it happens in underpants (5,5)  
**11** Stab with tip of dagger in weapon (6)  
**12** A parting pursuit involving death that's memorable (8)  
**13** Wearing cooler hat, not so sophisticated (9)  
**15** Pot plant planted initially on border (4)  
**16** Just OK (4)  
**17** Cross waves in secret to defect, ultimately (9)  
**21** Sailor out of tune, that's plain (4,4)  
**22** Raise the dead with word of hesitation in old man (6)  
**24** Disease caught by pair, lots scattered in terror (6,4)  
**25** See 9  
**26** Dissolute king half consumed by evidence of herpes? (6)  
**27** See 1

### Down

- 1** See 19  
**2** Blurt out rank (5)

- 3** Matter caught between modes of transport (7)  
**5** Red setter, did you say? (6)  
**6** It's not worth doing, to be blunt (9)  
**7** Inclination to enter competition to make a great profit (5,2)  
**8** Alchemists in cooking about right – to earn these? (8,5)  
**14** Not quite clever enough – or too much? (1,3,5)  
**16** Party girl, a bird? (7)  
**18** Avenger waiting to serve God (7)  
**19,1** In America, where one goes to monitor facts after a review (7,7)  
**20** Gas faults in need of repair (6)  
**23** Raise yokel to strangle duck (5)

Solution No. 26,151

