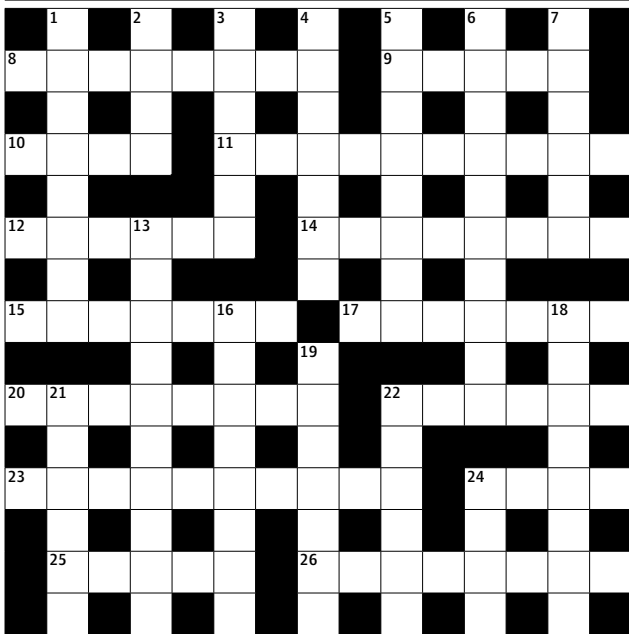


Guardian cryptic crossword



No 26,170 set by Arachne

Across

- 8 Frocked friend of Dorothy let rip (2,2,4)
- 9 Love recalled in touching tear-jerker (5)
- 10 Because, in a manner of speaking, it sounds harsh (4)
- 11 Rough playtimes involving female relatives (10)
- 12 Strong hand, flat chest (6)
- 14 Save time in Blackpool, perhaps (3,5)
- 15 Initiation of infants born with suitable faith (7)
- 17 Thick peers banning books (7)
- 20 Griped about heartless, exploitative ancestors (8)
- 22 Best mate heads off in car (6)
- 23 Fine sound, yet jerks jeer (7-3)
- 24 Blue swallow feathers fell from above (4)
- 25 8ft 4in girth of American (5)
- 26 Witches go where outcasts are sent (8)

Down

- 1 Multinational about to break up companies, all contracting in recession (4-4)
- 2 Ring bear up (4)
- 3 Stays in fancy place (6)
- 4 The opposite of “poetically”? (7)
- 5 Post-match shower (8)
- 6 Feline introduced from east as mice reproduced (7,3)
- 7 Showing naughty bits in Naked Lunch to youth (6)
- 13 Henry VIII could be insensitive (10)
- 16 Able to expand pigpen to accommodate cat (8)
- 18 Characterised by misfortune and horribly drawn out (8)
- 19 Result of flogging Victorian poisoner? (7)
- 21 Incorporated into previous day’s show (6)
- 22 Internal parts of gun change over generations (6)
- 24 Dog collars start to niggle chap with lurid hooter (4)

Solution No. 26,169

S	O	L	E	M	N	I	D	E	A	L	I	S	M
U	E	I		E	N	N	A						
M	U	S	C	L	E	C	A	R	N	I	V	A	L
P	B	L		D	U	E	I						
M	I	S	I	N	F	O	R	M	A	T	I	O	N
A	N	A	I	L	G	G							
C	O	N	V	E	N	I	E	N	T		T	H	E
O	R	T	G	L		R							
M	A	R	X	C	H	E	E	R	I	N	E	S	S
E	I	C	S	R	B	M							
O	R	D	N	A	N	C	E	S	U	R	V	E	Y
F	D	M	H		E	R	I						
F	O	L	D	E	R	O	L	S	T	O	A	T	S
I	E	R	O		T	L	L						
T	E	S	T	A	B	L	E	P	O	O	D	L	E