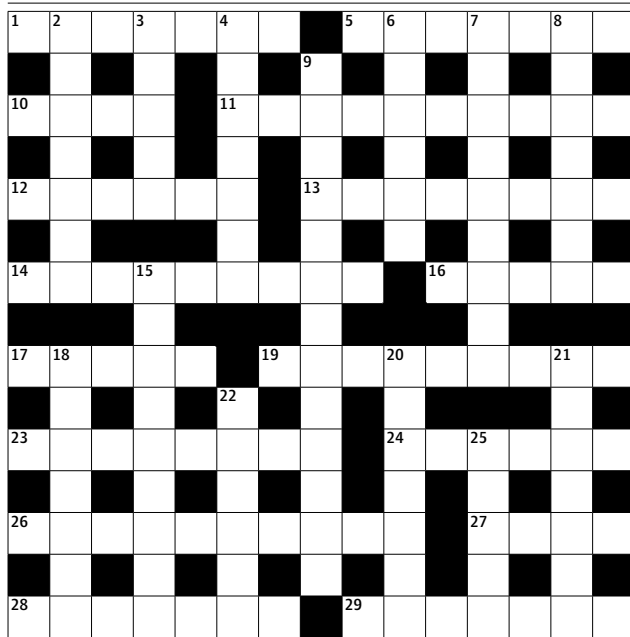


Guardian cryptic crossword



No 26,172 set by Philistine

The first five correct entries drawn each week win Guardian Style and Secrets of the Setters, worth £28.99.

Entries to: The Guardian Crossword No 26,172, P.O. Box 6603, Birmingham, B26 3PR, or Fax to 0121-742 1313 by first post on Friday. Solution and winners in the Guardian on Monday 10 February.

Across

- 1 Supplements for the dead and injured (7)
- 5 Not being there and not drinking out of can (7)
- 10 Strasbourg out of order? On the contrary! (4)
- 11 Possible damage to vehicle (Saab, with front missing) (10)
- 12 Before 9, delight in being generous (6)
- 13 Brazil may be nothing to France, having the ultimate in restaurant food (8)
- 14 Tiny vase differed, as halved and returned in statement (9)
- 16 Tucker's partner joins the French in a book (5)
- 17 Before 9, get to ooze (5)
- 19 It's a total wreck: get garage (9)
- 23 "Really ravenous readers?" – that's some alliteration! (8)
- 24 Epidemic in the city before 9 (6)
- 26 Leaves shocking war secrets (10)
- 27 Vitality prevalent before 9 (4)
- 28 Send a message to Maurice, perhaps, for material (7)
- 29 City accommodation in some anonymity (3,4)

Down

- 2 Pertaining to females – awfully staid females (7)

- 3 What contributes to both ulcerative colitis and gastroenteritis? (1,4)
- 4 Money for church in play (7)
- 6 Inspiration note filed where Archimedes found his (6)
- 7 Considering cutback on excavation (9)
- 8 Officer who called an inquest before 9 (7)
- 9 Defection is suspended in gas on the 15th? (8,5)
- 15 Rise before 9 – that's harsh (9)
- 18 Pluck and energy needed by someone washing hands (7)
- 20 Rather intriguing puzzle – online solvers' thoughtful effort leads to the answer (7)
- 21 To date, one needs a variety of fur hats (4,3)
- 22 Wipe out "tropical" disease before 9 (6)
- 25 Calm arrangement before 9 (5)

Solution No. 26,171

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