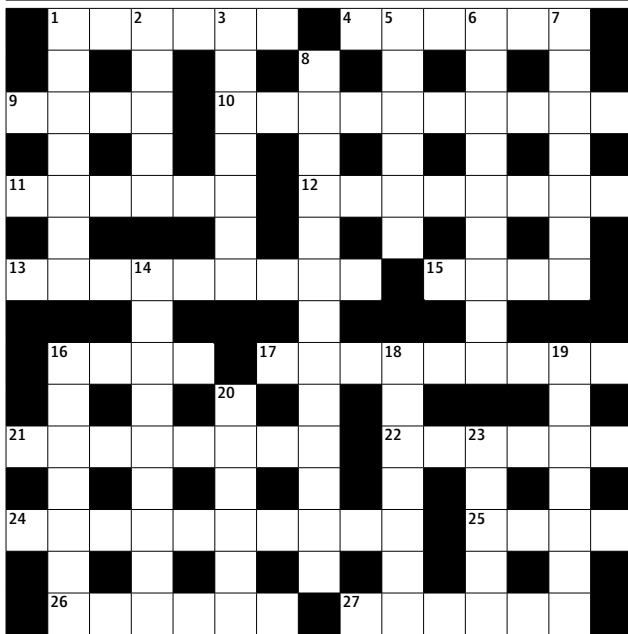


Guardian cryptic crossword



No 26,254 set by Brendan

Across

- 1 Pressure after vote in nearby country's become invalid (6)
- 4 Puts on in revised version that's clear (6)
- 9 Name the first to be knocked off (4)
- 10 Powerful instrument included in contents of chest buried in South by pirate (5,5)
- 11 Land in East, namely, taken back after British period (6)
- 12 Roman emperor's endless automatic action in waters off Italy (8)
- 13 New organ I ordered from country in Europe (9)
- 15 Sportsman needing to be cheered (4)
- 16 Has a complaint and is lambasting shopkeeper up front (4)
- 17 Look for bill with extra length – characteristic of a healthy bird? (9)
- 21 Second question changed around for operational unit (8)
- 22 Dreadful cut on a bird with beautiful plumage (6)
- 24 Major cut to obsolete weapon, with political co-operation (10)
- 25 Having lately joined a certain choir? Absolutely (4)
- 26 Outline of small boat (6)
- 27 Character holding rook and duck – or another bird (6)

- 2 Right-winger in US, type that's irritating about left (5)
- 3 Not acting on trap set up by police (7)
- 5 Drama with extinct bird, mostly about having ceased to be (2,4)
- 6 Para unit deployed around line to provide protection for sailor (9)
- 7 Pair with a bit of script that's nutty stuff (7)
- 8 Property of sheep and goats in story, in different senses (13)
- 14 Certainly knowing setter and solver exist without barrier being put up (4,5)
- 16 Doesn't put in prison, even under a Conservative (7)
- 18 Oddly, it's a volcano – even so, I land in northern Europe (7)
- 19 Revised atlases showing result of oceanic evaporation (3,4)
- 20 Intended to arouse emotion – result, initially, of hearing organ (6)
- 23 Concluding you can find the answer below (5)

Solution No. 26,253

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

Down

- 1 Prohibit European doctor going on legendary vessel (7)