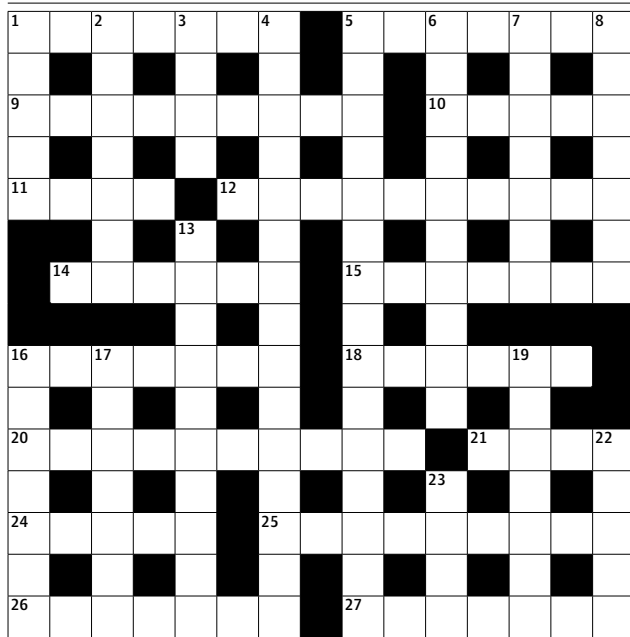


Guardian cryptic crossword



No 26,258 set by Philistine

Across

- 1** Sounds like what you might need (1,6)
5 Fingers in many pies trapped (7)
9,10 Generalissimo welcomed female compiler, relaxed with the Guardian and listened to this? (9,5)
11,21 Success in borrowing rejected by Swiss capital option for sleeping partners (4,4)
12 Like the blubber in Homer's lacy pants (10)
14 Contacts needed for this compiler's taking drugs without setback (6)
15 Visualisation of shimmering mirage at the end of the valley (7)
16 Smuggle in blossom, one in Africa (7)
18 At first, Eva Braun could be sophisticated (6)
20 It's partly digital if learning, or life, rang in exchange (10)
21 See 11
24 City is at the cutting edge in broadcasting (5)
25 A game English soldier's bagged – sorry (9)
26 Backwards family with sheep triggered the space race (7)
27 Start to scream and shout about a horse being emaciated (7)

Down

- 1** A northerner, of course (5)

- 2** Being stupid in a tiny way (7)
3 OK to end on Mayday (2-2)
4 Revolutionary Karl Marx 50% income tax! (11,4)
5 Beautiful people lead ridiculous hunt sabotage (15)
6 Weak passage in Vietnam by Pam Bygraves (5-5)
7 Available for purchase, now or in the future (2,5)
8 Confidence in battle of the Home Counties? (7)
13 International waters in effect from 12 August (4,6)
16 They divert the movement of foxes (7)
17 A bit of 9 10's demeanour went off without me (7)
19 Requiring manipulation of the audience (7)
22 Pansy among daffodils is symbolic (5)
23 Honesty can be disregarded; that's grim (4)

Solution No. 26,257

