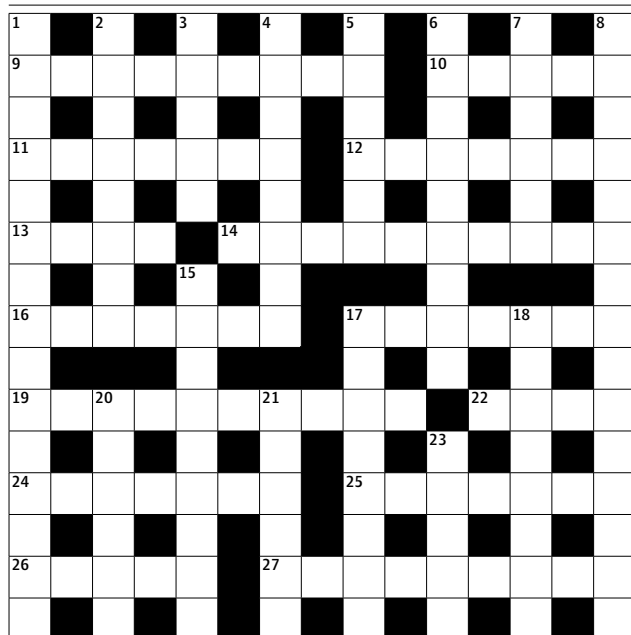


## Guardian cryptic crossword



No 26,284 set by Paul

### Across

- 9** Tongue rarely used to preen, as rough (9)  
**10** Simple backwater (5)  
**11** Remove hair from East Judea's Roman procurator (7)  
**12** Old god not entirely into dance, a wasted evening? (5-2)  
**13** Mythical vessel written about in bibliography (4)  
**14** Contact artist for exciting work (4-6)  
**16** Vent anger at first, one part full of hate, initially (3,4)  
**17** File corrupted in computer – that's pernicious (7)  
**19** Back bend sees another burst of energy (6,4)  
**22** See 3  
**24** Article written in factory on a type of paper (7)  
**25** Unfashionable haircut rocks, on the surface (7)  
**26** Talking cat, of course! (5)  
**27** This setter is to return a pair of rulers shipped by post (4-5)

### Down

- 1** Enlarge, might one suggest, a legislature? (7,8)  
**2** A jumping dog? (8)  
**3,22** Banker announcing depressing figures? (5,4)

- 4** Dean has urge to stray, sex so illicit? (8)  
**5,21** U-U-U-U like some meat? That's a huge blow! (6,6)  
**6** Baffling noise, bullshit? (9)  
**7** See 23  
**8** I say derisive utterances about record attributed to native American chap – that's not on! (7,8)  
**15** Tremendous description of a kangaroo with superglued hind legs? (9)  
**17** Old instrument with nothing left in time (8)  
**18** Salt, or in water perhaps, alkaline base (8)  
**20** 100 a square number for setter, perhaps? (6)  
**21** See 5  
**23,7** Sample bird as prison informer (5,6)

Solution No. 26,283

