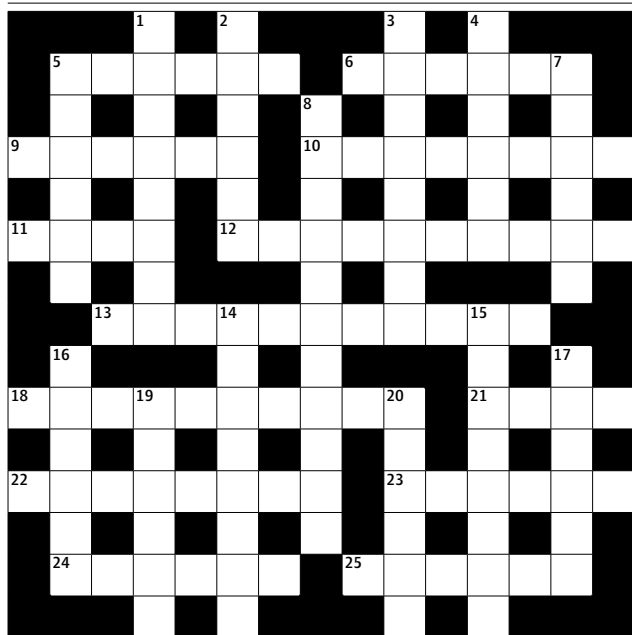


Guardian cryptic crossword



No 26,316 set by Crucible

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 26,316, 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 28 July.

All solutions are wholly or partly 8, which is unclued

Across

- 5 Mount watch in case (6)
 6 Assist business to mail packages (6)
 9 Strong shock when heart's bypassed in power cut (6)
 10 Like bad jokes, limited supply left to crack (3-5)
 11 Current changeover (4)
 12 English bird is circling moor for endless periods (10)
 13 8, for instance, discussed vetoed editorials (11)
 18 Teams got rid of injured wings, perhaps (10)
 21 It's touch and go (4)
 22 John Gay's overly evident in Amazing Grace (8)
 23 Peer into the unknown twice per annum (6)
 24 Jock's cross, forgetting Latin work by Juvenal, say (6)
 25 Hurry to develop a proposal for it (4,2)

Down

- 1 Old South American artist hosts writer privately (2,6)
 2 Cut power escaping from exhaust (6)
 3 Row during late duke's set (8)
 4 He believes in one being sweaty around noon (6)
 5 Mingling with these beauties, Ali could be hilarious (6)
 7 Rushdie's eloquent about this source of power (6)
 8 [See preamble] (11)
 14 Does regular income protect royal widows? (8)
 15 A politician is furious defending riots (8)
 16 Big shop stocks an assortment of iron keys (6)
 17 Old gardener's extremely lonely in flat (6)
 19 Assess writer's lost property (6)
 20 Anybody swimming anonymously doesn't board (3,3)

Solution No. 26,315

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