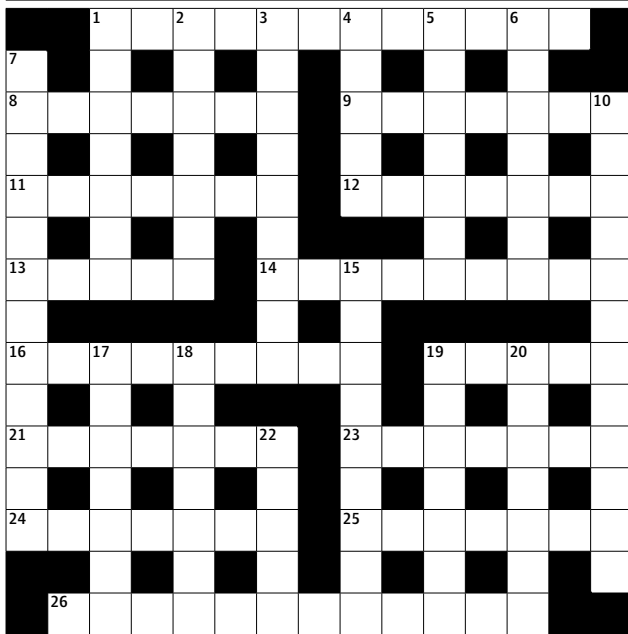


Guardian cryptic crossword



No 26,318 set by Shed

Across

- 1 Flier shot firearm, blind (8,4)
- 8 Not wholly uncorked wine, perhaps, is unusually like hard work (7)
- 9 Increase length of time (7)
- 11 Arundel crumbling into Wash? (7)
- 12 Dinner, maybe, with no starter, involving bird with no end (7)
- 13 Come to pan Spain and Norway (5)
- 14 Musicians' dosh reportedly censored (5,4)
- 16 Alarming disclosure of beauty (9)
- 19 Submission to no-good people of social standing (5)
- 21 Craftsperson's fruit keeps men right (7)
- 23 Returned, say, to die, say, in Hell (7)
- 24 Right to agitate about type of cup (7)
- 25 Interval with money invested in annuity scheme (7)
- 26 Medical expert to sprout in wet season? On the contrary (5,7)

Down

- 1 Animal turning king to solid gold (7)
- 2 Little person brought up to adopt peculiar name – Battle? (7)

- 3 Loathsome river water-dweller gets article in Paris Match (9)
- 4 Beer is consumed in passageway (5)
- 5 Former magistrate drives into empty bus (7)
- 6 Barrel in middle of road smashed into building (7)
- 7 LA district (but not "hood"), clad in stones, generates queasy feeling (12)
- 10 Random swipe catches smelly tourist (12)
- 15 Snapper of everyone on list soldier's drawn up (9)
- 17 Like the more when more inebriated? (7)
- 18 Fighters concocting a tiramisu? Forget it! (7)
- 19 Improve space beside Chinese church (7)
- 20 Fraught atmosphere generated by headless 25s (7)
- 22 What experts know – their onions? (5)

Solution No. 26,317

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