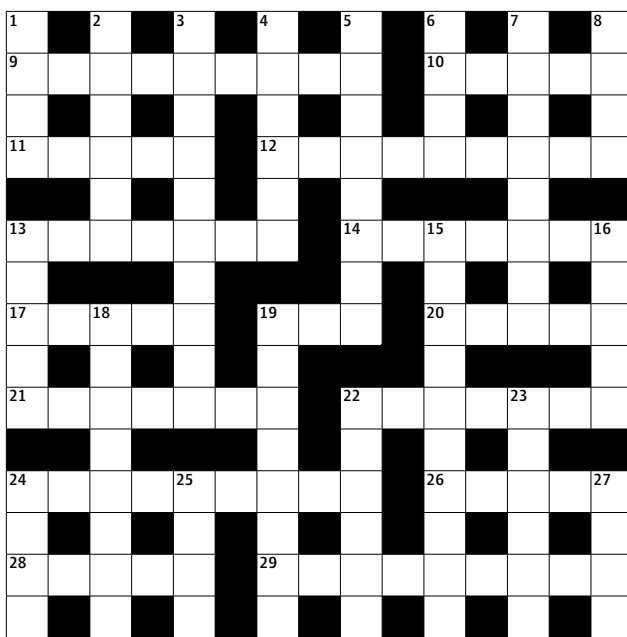


Guardian cryptic crossword



No 26,421 set by Qaos

Across

- 9** One with sixteen wheels carrying international concerns (9)
10 Asian touring Zaire? (5)
11 Wide? Stumped! End of innings (5)
12 Demonstrate freely, not as bothered (9)
13 Aardvark or elephant? Be a risky selection (7)
14 European shake up enabling Norway to leave (7)
17 Former PM Blair abandoning the centre, now criminal (5)
19 Early or later? (3)
20 Sound, sound material (5)
21 Field swirls with blues and other colours (7)
22 At first, Pompeii's lava flowed about, circling commotion (7)
24 It clammers off road to begin with? (9)
26 Half of Amsterdam's compounds go with speed (5)
28 Sorry to cover earth with grass (5)
29 As reported in Dublin, 300 signs of growth (4,5)

Down

- 1** How long it took God to create, say (4)
2 No more Post Office? Right time to deliver abroad (6)
3 Get comfortable with ET? Listen to alien (6,4)
4 Trite composition follows B sharp (6)

- 5** Put down a small plot, after felony was twice curtailed (8)
6 Light from television system needs energy (4)
7 It's minute 'n' massless (or thereabouts) (8)
8 Time to mock up original design (4)
13 Top Cat pinches Dibble's seat in church (5)
15 Bad luck splitting rent rates below student flat (10)
16 Bottom of storm drain (5)
18 Locations of birds or eels, 50% with snakes (8)
19 Fish in batter to be past its sell-by date (8)
22 He carries Philip or Terry inside (6)
23 European city where 6 queen was raised (6)
24 Plants and animals? (4)
25 Maybe algebra, trigonometry, histograms, primes for Americans? (4)
27 Fashion icon's very upset to wear two dress sizes (4)

Solution No. 26,420

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