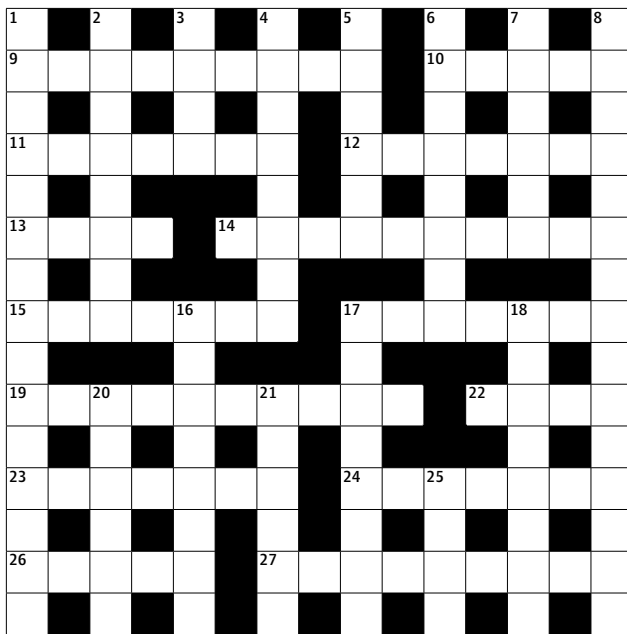


Guardian cryptic crossword



No 26,456 set by Qaos

Across

- 9** A politician's memory? Put freely, it's make-shift (9)
10 Fabric sale! 50% off money (5)
11 See wings of shriek in prize photograph (5-2)
12 Support for scrabble letters (7)
13 Siren's fuse? (4)
14 Colour sports brochure covers books ... (5,5)
15 ... on doing exercise (7)
17 In the year 2000, 599 entered Open University for a bit (7)
19 Getting off scary giant ride takes a little bit of nerve (10)
22 Curse and blast without ever ending (4)
23 Lead, helium and iron compounds on Earth (7)
24 Coverage of space alien (7)
26 Country relocates area to middle of mountain range (5)
27 "Heavy" holds back New York gangster about the throat (9)

Down

- 1** Board move found US credit note (10,5)
2 After father retires, Abramovich welcomes new or old worker (5-3)
3 Nothing left in explosive crater (4)

- 4** Top trophies gaining publicity before gun shot was invented (8)
5 Formula 1 driver just going above 100 (6)
6 Universal rock star raves, injects drug – love getting unconscious? (8)
7 It's about time! Around an hour is a pain (6)
8 Vaguely dine out, finish and leave your tips (15)
16 Europeans exalting escargot at first (8)
17 Coolers designed to hold a small criminal? (8)
18 Clerk can bake biscuit (8)
20 In bath, reading yarn (6)
21 Point, point, point, point then led all over the place (6)
25 Relative to visit repeatedly after hotel check-out (4)

Solution No. 26,455

