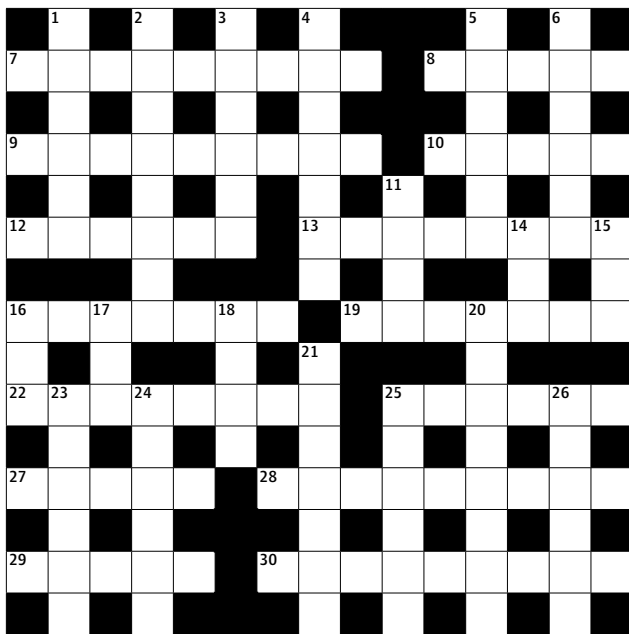


Guardian cryptic crossword



No 26,727 set by Qaos

Across

- 7 Battle over a party with Corbyn's lead – it's very hot! (9)
 8 Asteroid at the heart of space research (5)
 9 Show time raiding the larder (9)
 10 Manchester United manager once upset substitute with ... (5)
 12 ... celebration and kiss beside unknown number of stars (6)
 13 Trains Tom to wear suede pants (8)
 16 Penny: "I will fight this case" (7)
 19 Father receives end of joke over 40 winks with a straight face (7)
 22 Castle made of cream and gold, with artificial walls (8)
 25 Cricketer's second ball gets wicket – England's opener caught in both hands (6)
 27 Yellowish-brown lumps rejected (5)
 28 It gets rid of the reek of corrupt votes – good people are gutted (9)
 29 In the news: 9-0 to president (5)
 30 Horse doesn't eat herbs (3,6)

Down

- 1 Parents tour new American republic (6)
 2 Start to bet when Bella's playing a game (8)
 3 Figure hugging child's toy? (6)

- 4 Very short alien green man's turned away (7)
 5 Monstrous woman who could be petrifying (6)
 6 Soft after exercise? Get fit, losing a stone (6)
 11 Theurgies regularly conjure up giant (4)
 14 1st but not 2nd or 3rd of March ... (3)
 15 ... a scorcher of a day! (3)
 16 Uranium discovered in lead bar (3)
 17 Fifty-fifty to catch Frisbee when laughing out loud (3)
 18 Fine king stands on a lady's fingers (4)
 20 Make light of sad performance (8)
 21 Mountain climbing before meal? They say you reach a level (7)
 23 Actor Sim is dismissed as a star (6)
 24 Field trip made by old women (6)
 25 British girl's lines and angles? (6)
 26 Spotted dramatic episode, when Oscar's withheld (6)

Solution No. 26,726

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