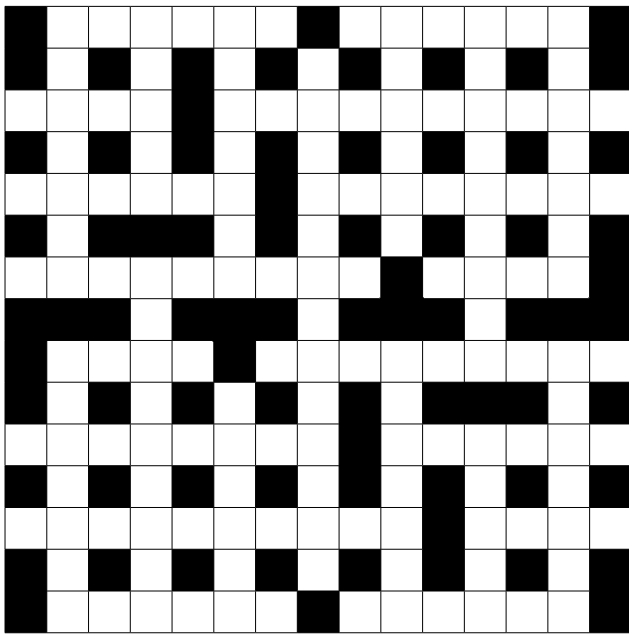


Guardian cryptic crossword



No 26,495 set by Paul

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 26,495, 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 23 February.

Solve the clues and fit the solutions jigsaw-wise, wherever they will go. On 26 April Paul is running the London Marathon in memory of A and for the charity Sense, which works for deafblind adults and children. To sponsor him, please go to www.justgiving.com/guardiancrossword.

- A** He'd bend to steal my heart with song, all our lives enhancing ... (9)
- B** ... being with love, I go off dancing ... (9)
- C** Gap: around it, rodent to spot? (6)
On which to go with naval officer, or not? (7)
- D** Perversion needed a cold, cold sore (9)
- E** To be back is bad, I'm sure (4)
- F** An accomplishment having foul starter to guzzle (4)
Good Lord, almost finished filling in crafty type's puzzle! (7)
- G** Produce from France or Switzerland sounding expanded, yes? (7)
- H** Items in a convent's laundry may be filthy, I confess! (6)
- I** Finger's ending in sauce, showing lack of care (10)
- J** Briefly run to welcome the Guardian's new reporter there? (6)
- K** Light a fire, no need for books? (6)
- L** Something cheap containing duck, sad seller cooks (4,6)
- M** Moving house, second room the flaw? (5,4)
- N** Born to stop, right, wanting more (7)
- O** Order: put it on, then leave it out (4)
- P** Church court where types err by messing about (10)
- Q** Hurried drinks from those like Fiery Fred? (8)
- R** Leaving work and going to bed (8)
- S** With kids around, there's little time for horse (5)
- T** Splendid drink encapsulating vacation, of course (3,4)
- U** Popping Es, naughty nuns not viewed with specs? (6)
- V** So shortly filing books, one's marked X? (5)
- W** Question about endless slugs appearing a jinx (8)
- X** The other outstanding boy returns for festivals, methinks? (6)
- Y** Pants, frosty pants around frozen pole, I fear? (1-6)
- Z** Dash round moving cars or be safe, primarily – here? (5,8)

Solution No. 26,494

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