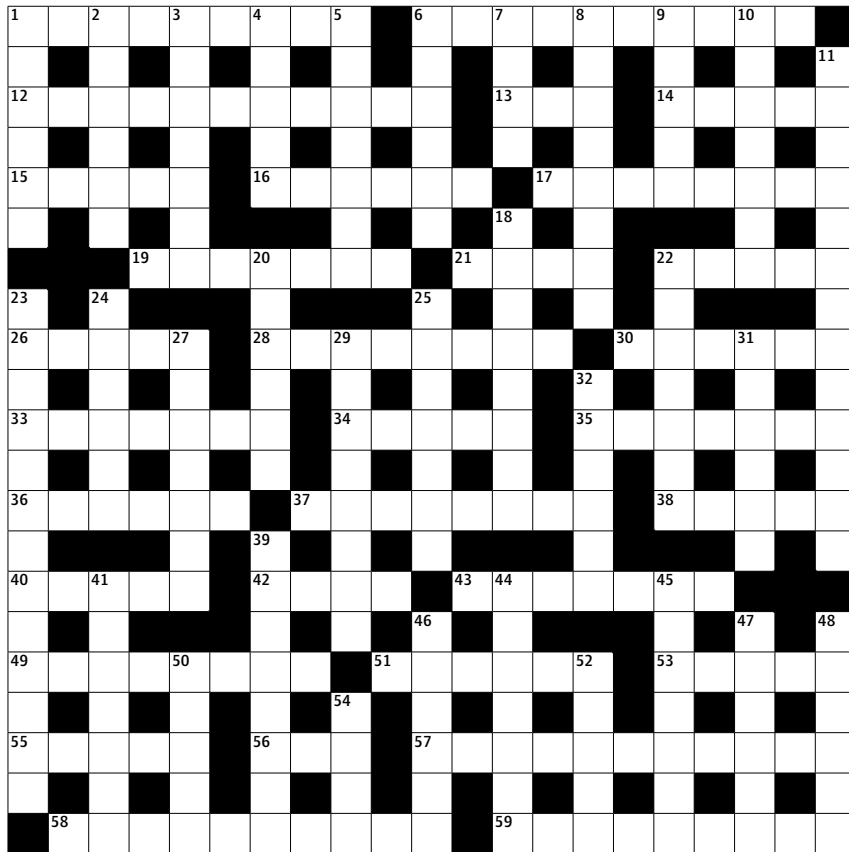


Guardian cryptic crossword - August Bank Holiday



No 26,663 set by Maskarade

Thematic solutions are divided into three groups (A, B and C), which are of a kind and not further defined. Solutions to the three clues marked H form an anagram of 27's partner.

Across

- 1** (C) Young Edward returns, sounding worse (9)
6,48 (A) What I'm smoking, contents are meagre after turning it over (2,8,6)
12,22 (B) 30 sponsors in trouble (9,2,5)

- 13** (H) Pieces – some fragments (3)
14,11 (B) Repercussions about resort in Ulster – County Down, for starters, maybe (5,5,8)
15 (A or C) Sondheim's ultimate song (5)
16 Sadness old bishop revealed in broadcast (6)
17 Swimmer's dismal impression (4,4)
19 See 32
21 Conservative politician enlists a group of supporters (4)

- 22** See 12
26 Bouquet of European flower is reported (5)
28 See 24
30 Lover having trouble about end of affair (6)
33 Deliveries to Doune oddly late (7)
34 See 43
35 Prepared to study single case of Euclid (7)
36 Palace and cathedral diocese (6)
37 Golfer madly takes in a quiet game (8)
38 (C) Plaice and sole both regularly chosen (5)
40 Spoke of compiler's catches (5)
42 (H) Hesitant cough put one on edge (4)
43,34,57 (A) No go with ten engines having extensive rebuild (7,5,2,9)
49 Everyone knows feature is on island out East (2,6)
51 See 32
53 Girl cried: "It hurt a bit!" (5)
55 Girl is taken to Helen's heart (5)
56 Treebeard, say, in hospital section (3)
57 See 43
58 Gilbert is crooked – get him involved in underhand trick (10)
59 (A) Our ungrammatical life in Leeds, ruined (9)

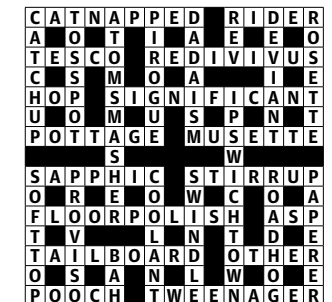
Down

- 1** (A) Function extremists have at heart (2-2-2)
2 Rows involving husband and old French statesman (6)
3 Beckett's work at the fifth Test? (7)
4 Hanks' film held up (5)

- 5** Book about tennis action (7)
6 Flunky wearing skimpy garment (6)
7 Film academy – musical entertainment for starters. Yes! (4)
8 (C) Vicar's first travelling by horse and cart with pastor (3,5)
9 Sly boxing role (5)
10 Ladies and Gentlemen (TS Eliot production) (7)
11 See 14
18 Composer could possibly agree with Mr Cross (3,5)
20 Fishes from Tobago gutted by short invitee (6)
22 One pointer's rough beard will! (3,4)
23 See 50
24,28 (A) Old Nelly, sadly, has to criticise that woman who's died (6,8)
25 Puny folk, Royal Marines, separately boarding vessels (7)
27 (and H) I understand duke has entered mid-session (7)
29 Fish agreement rejected at county (8)
31 (With 15, C) I left prince (6)
32,51,19 (B) Intelligent officer on drums? (6,6,7)

- 39** See 46
41 Is no longer smug, quiet and petulant? (7)
44 My old-fashioned confession comes to a dead end (7)
45 Despite all that's happened, no longer vengeful (4,3)
46,39 (A) Lawgiver first going to distant town in Surrey (2,4,8)
47 Composer makes flying sea trip regularly (6)
48 See 6 across
50,23 (B) The pick Pedro broke in settlements (5-7,6)
52 Football manager's to compete again (5)
54 (H) Mix porridge (4)

Solution No. 26,662



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