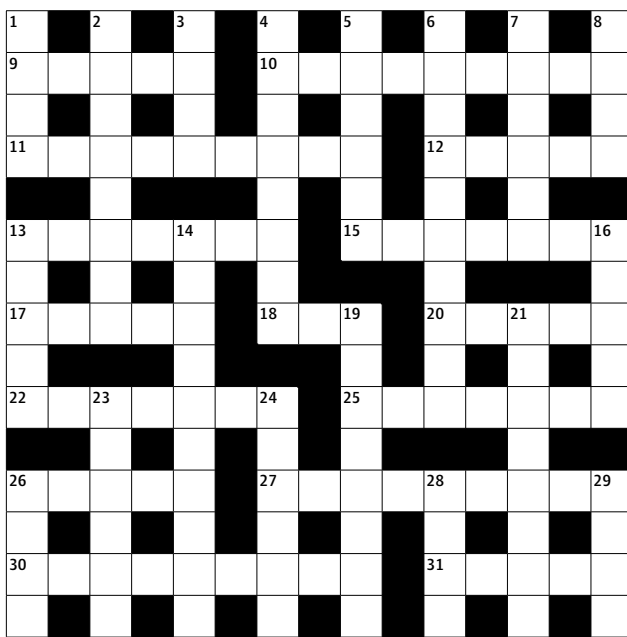


Guardian cryptic crossword



No 27,107 set by Rufus

Across

- 9 Ship, possibly a drifter (5)
 10 Pretend to be ill, we hear, to get a drink (9)
 11 Graduate entertains a slimmer's objective – eating off this? (4,5)
 12 Waterway is able to dock everything (5)
 13 Fiasco for young socialite with torn lace (7)
 15 Visibly unaffected by sorrow (3-4)
 17 Gather information alternately with the French (5)
 18 Pot plant? (3)
 20 Gather a large crowd, we hear (5)
 22 A support thus returned is appropriate (7)
 25 Means of gauging a boring job (7)
 26 Underemployed gallery worker (5)
 27 Land of Hope? (9)
 30 A spirit to woo meant victory for Henry (9)
 31 Dog track? (5)

Down

- 1 What's left when objections are raised? (4)
 2 Extremely clever, but hateful (8)
 3 Heroic tale from The Pickwick Papers (4)
 4 I'd interrupted to stress something unexpected (8)

- 5 A leader of Zulus in tough venture (6)
 6 Happy carol that's become legendary (10)
 7 A representative business (6)
 8 Give players a hand (4)
 13 Pointer, maybe, to master's belief (5)
 14 Plot links prisoners to criminal activity (10)
 16 A ruse to avoid (5)
 19 Right to get junior minister to foot the bill (8)
 21 European set to bail Anna out (8)
 23 Rank one can change in a way (6)
 24 Shoot something to eat (6)
 26 Aim low (4)
 28 Where hangings still take place in London (4)
 29 Is indisposed to alter sail (4)

Solution No. 27,100

