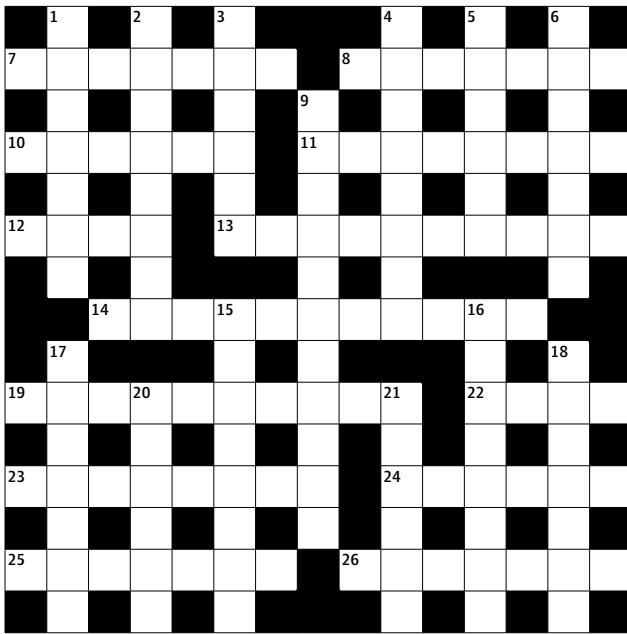


Guardian cryptic crossword



No 26,992 set by Shed

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 26,992, 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 26 September.

Across

- 7 A “thank you” in tribe’s language (7)
 8 Born 14 part 1, though overdue (7)
 10 Beginning to snuff candle, having turned round meal (6)
 11 Drinks hired out by circle (8)
 12 Apostasy, oddly, rejected in colonnade (4)
 13 Buy one Dali – it’s surreal – having potential to be picked up (10)
 14 Evangelical dwarf, given potter’s material, keeping very quiet (5-6)
 19 Barmy Army entering number and name of fellow citizen (10)
 22 Arbiter securing Spain’s chain (4)
 23 Relieve outrageously rude bunny, almost (8)
 24 Setter: one sneaky and skimpy? (6)
 25 Pill box containing philosophy (7)
 26 Far from 14 part 1 choice between France, Luxembourg and Norway? (7)

Down

- 1 Spread round permitted colour range (7)
 2 Graduate’s tree: commander’s witch (4,4)
 3 Tool up, receiving insect’s incantation (6)
 4 Insensitive, entering pear-shaped partial shadow (8)
 5 Wrecker of vehicle boy overturned (6)
 6 Happening to interrupt Shirley’s heartless number (7)
 9 Quandary generated by last word in forecast (11)
 15 Prototype map with a grid redesigned (8)
 16 Lightweight boxer’s last to enter, fit for consumption (8)
 17 Cowboy’s head, squashed by bucking bronco, reveals inside of ear (7)
 18 Assert period was first to keep 100 up (7)
 20 Sodium securing a purpose – disgust? (6)
 21 Hunter to beat troops up, on reflection (6)

Solution No. 26,991

