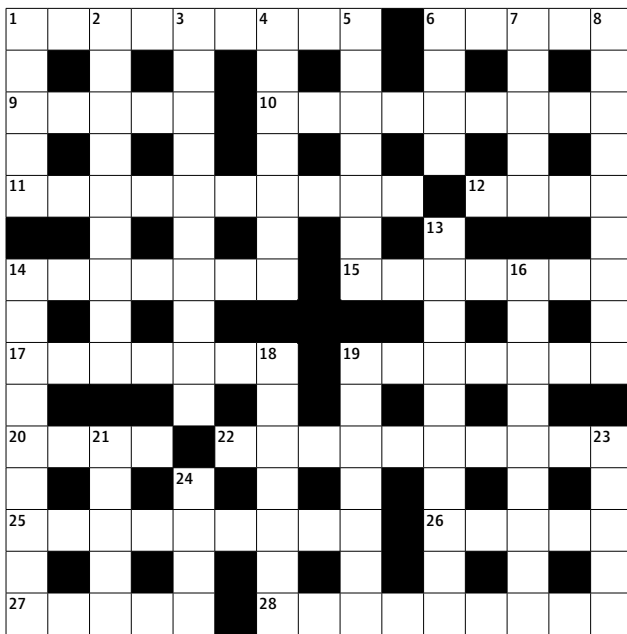


## Guardian cryptic crossword



No 26,986 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 26,986, 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 19 September.

### Across

- 1 Cheers beginning in Pennsylvania, America saw British in retreat (7,2)
- 6 Land between mountains with northern adventurer (5)
- 9 Potential Mount Everest, primarily for adventurer (5)
- 10 Adventurer who packs a punch? (9)
- 11 Spooner's dance with 10, rational figure (4,6)
- 12 Note success after first from Cambridge (4)
- 14 In spirit, the stuff feeding culture for an adventurer (7)
- 15 Fizzy diet drinks cold, each a cold drink (4,3)
- 17 Possible source of wind resistance in jets (7)
- 19 Change round Lithuanian and Latvian capitals, as adventurer (7)
- 20 Travel adventurer (4)
- 22 Adventurer here, OK with vast ground (10)
- 25 A 20 needing no cab? (9)
- 26 Not moving yet (5)
- 27 Two prepare for impact (5)
- 28 Writer indeed struggling with books, financially needing others (9)
- 4 Priest about right as adventurer (7)
- 5 Couple after Macedonian leader in Alexander, say, finding buried treasure in Italy? (7)
- 6 Sound way to walk in door (4)
- 7 Biblical character, one turning on the house of God (5)
- 8 Bedtime drinks for birds (9)
- 13 Spring chicken's top and stockings new, carefully selected (4-6)
- 14 Eatery, however briefly, left sink upside down (9)
- 16 Ingesting tail of pterodactyl, three taste a fossilised arthropod (9)
- 18 Normal to jettison sandwiches as adventurer (7)
- 19 Reportedly, European happy to provide dental appointment (5-2)
- 21 Belief in female setter, perhaps? (5)
- 23 Very much to say is set aside (5)
- 24 Pumped-up Lebanese port? (4)

### Down

- 1 Very much cake, case of forty or fifty eaten up (2,3)
- 2 Sailor welcomes artillery and flag waving in battle (9)
- 3 Our cinema's about to screen a display of marine life (10)

Solution No. 26,985

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