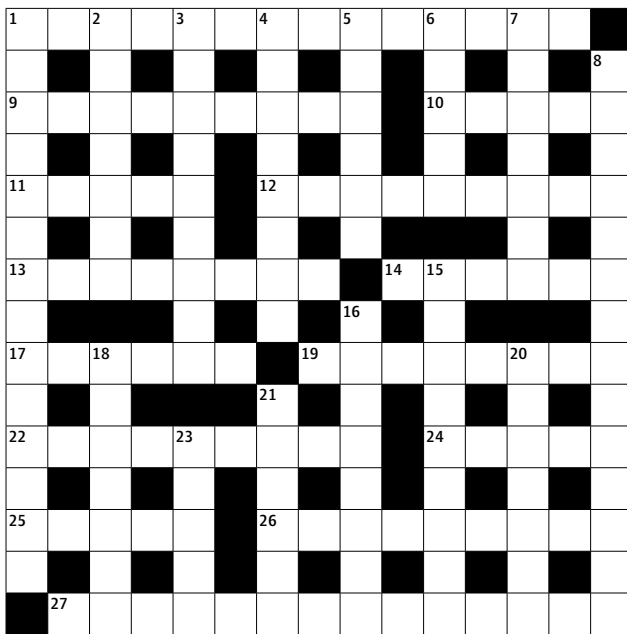


## Guardian cryptic crossword



No 26,926 set by Picaroon

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 26,926, 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 11 July.

### Across

- 1 Jilted lover writes online story for financial benefit (7,7)
- 9 Seeks further profit from check clothing (9)
- 10 Lag behind army corps, gathering information for the Americans (5)
- 11 Scales part of extremely stony, black, bare hill (5)
- 12 Assistant wrapping small hands round beer and oversexed American? (9)
- 13 Fair game to pocket diamonds, around 7 or 8? (8)
- 14 Cut clothing for girl, one wild child (6)
- 17 Haulier short of right fare down under (6)
- 19 This pace is wrong for take-off (8)
- 22 Leader from English paper: wonderful, penetrating feature (9)
- 24 Love getting called a hairy beast (5)
- 25 Clip top from sargasso weed (5)
- 26 Switch contains electrical current conductor (9)
- 27 Green area's politicians admitted to loathing bill by Tory PM (9,5)

### Down

- 1 Leave camp's position with terribly imprecise scout (14)
- 2 Tending to follow Putin's lead, possibly bent (7)
- 3 Little work requiring 15 days and lots of character? (9)

- 4 Part of city street crossed by European on main track (4,4)
- 5 Station guards left large building (6)
- 6 Something in perfume has men and gentleman spinning (5)
- 7 Turning in century, man in game's making a score (7)
- 8 Lenin, with sigh, resolved to tour steppe, unpretentiously (2,5,7)
- 15 Doctor's promise to squeeze writer's back (9)
- 16 Lady's boring design, flipping tasteless white stuff (8)
- 18 It's fabulous being rich, a poor compiler's gathered (7)
- 20 Target for red vehicle skirting unknown, hot area (7)
- 21 Knocks seaman over on junk (3-3)
- 23 Scoffed at University Blue (3,2)

Solution No. 26,925

