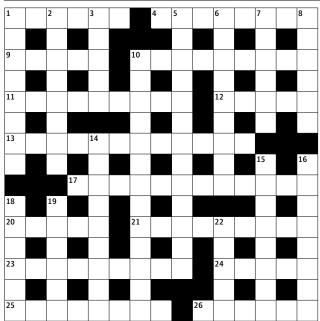
Guardian cryptic crossword



No 27,155 set by Chifonie

Across

- 1 Bird has a long way to go round German city(6)
- **4** Obliged to pull back, when about to consider force (8)
- **9** Classical tale of chivalry (5)
- **10** Father has half a dozen cats in the buildings (9)
- 11 Will Ross's cooked a cake (5,4)
- **12** Union member died, tucking into cheese (5)
- **13** Thought of French freedom (12)
- **17** A senatorship arranged for Greek writer (12)
- **20** Castle by edge of river
- **21** Cook rice with basil and make it snappy (9)
- 23 Firm about nitwit's suspicious bird (9)
- **24** Bill and Edward played (5)
- **25** Said scripture lesson is included? It's barred! (8)
- **26** Bill's cast out, but protected (6)

Down

- 1 If upset, stay at home (8)
- 2 Hobble lethargically, but clearly (8)
- 3 Relatives socially acceptable to be introduced to community workers (5)

- **5** Rex gets Darwinian novel (13)
- **6** Ring assassin, where charge is made (9)
- **7** In favour of accepting a pound in coin (6)
- **8** "Make a reduction in class", we're told (6)
- **10** Wonky taps in reactor cause delay (13)
- **14** Orchestra leader wears clean bra made in Spain (9)
- **15** Relentless girl hit newsman (8)
- **16** Rose, like Charlie, has finished (8)
- **18** Supporters of British champions (6)
- **19** Doctor gets addict a useful cat (6)
- **22** Tory's skin problem leads to collapse (5)

Solution No. 27,148

