

Guardian cryptic crossword

No 27,214 set by Paul

The first five correct entries drawn each week win Can You Solve My Problems?

Entries to: The Guardian Crossword No 27,214, 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 12 June.

Across

- 1 Charlie's ban on banter, perhaps ... (7)
- **5** ... quite the opposite, as good man breaking oath of old (7)
- **9** Splendid local offering sent back (5)
- **10** Necessity is in recompense (9)
- 11 One hooked on bars? (10)12 In Hyderabad, a legume?
- (3) 14 Criminal snatches item, getting reprimand (12)
- 18 Unfortunately, I'm too warty to impress old lover, a turn-off (8,4)
- 21 Mock paper (3)
- **22** Unsportingly unsporting? (3,7)
- **25** In list, people may be found (9)
- **26** Total idiot missing introduction (5)
- **27** First of patients, moreover, carried by the other make of stretcher (7)
- **28** In European airport, wine on the counter regulated (7)

Down

- University out of time on brilliant poet (6)
- 2 Many, for example, feeding cat (6)
- **3** Plant is expected to hang initially within straggly bower (10)
- 4 Middle of body approximately below top in theory (5)

5 Lovely flower beds go – is cutting? (9)

- 6 Sand in bottle (4)
- **7** Villain or devil incarnate, ultimately infernal (8)
- 8 Neither won nor lost many – chose randomly (4,4)
- **13** Fruits served up with very little bread, flowing only somewhat? (4-6)
- **15** Opposition on the case, punch the air! (6-3)
- **16** Holding flag up, Australian natives found in honourable retirement (8)
- **17** Suffering evidence, magistrate lacking in religious education bamboozled (8)
- 19 Finally, loveless princess put on right slipper? (6)20 Narrative including
- header in equaliser, getting level (6)
- **23** Doctrine was concerned with love, no answer to it (5)
- 24 Elephants perhaps identified by the ears, they say?(4)

