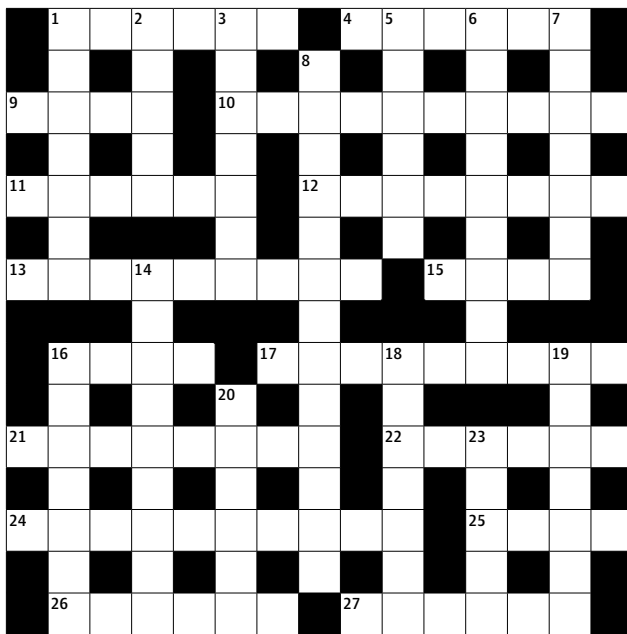


## Guardian cryptic crossword



No 26,808 set by Vlad

### Across

- 1 Controversial candidate wanting power ... and nearly becoming president? (6)
- 4 Call on setter to retire – it makes you sick! (6)
- 9 Draw fellow in back as means of identification (1-3)
- 10 Glamorous people I follow around (and refuse to stop) (10)
- 11 Language needing clarification – plain English! (6)
- 12 Doctor not male – one patient at it (2,3,3)
- 13 Taking part in tiebreaker hasn't lost – it's working (6,3)
- 15 Boss's room not quite finished (4)
- 16 Cash from court gets Henry on track (4)
- 17 Sign to west, proper elections (9)
- 21 Claptrap from Conservative members occasionally worth recalling (8)
- 22 Instructions to massage deep, not hard (6)
- 24 Rose sportingly let out after retraction at the last minute (4,2,4)
- 25 Eight organisations rejected features writer (4)
- 26 Refrain from taking action over training centre? (6)
- 27 Holder and others sounded greatly impressed (6)

### Down

- 1 Material upset big cheese (7)
- 2 Extreme skill? Partly luck, on reflection (5)
- 3 Group heading off to fish for sport (7)
- 5 China's quite regularly embraced change (6)
- 6 Wrong people arrested for eliminating female bully (9)
- 7 Brought round to prepare, regularly, a cold meal for queen (3,4)
- 8 Our own dear land (3-3,7)
- 14 Suggests it's raised among prisoners (9)
- 16 Liberal academic finds employment (7)
- 18 Poet (old woman) cut very complicated lines (7)
- 19 Was son left outside? (7)
- 20 Quickly aware of pair on top (6)
- 23 Horse nibbling Mr Turner's nuts (5)

Solution No. 26,807

P	S	P	A	A	W	W
B	I	T	E	R	N	S
M	O	U	T	S	T	E
S	P	E	W	E	D	I
L	E	E	L	S	R	T
L	A	M	M	A	S	B
E	O	E	I	I	A	
K	U	B	R	I	C	K
N	E	R	I	H	U	
P	A	R	O	X	Y	S
V	R	S	M	O	A	C
R	O	U	L	E	T	T
W	E	A	R	K	I	E
D	S	S	E	D	D	T