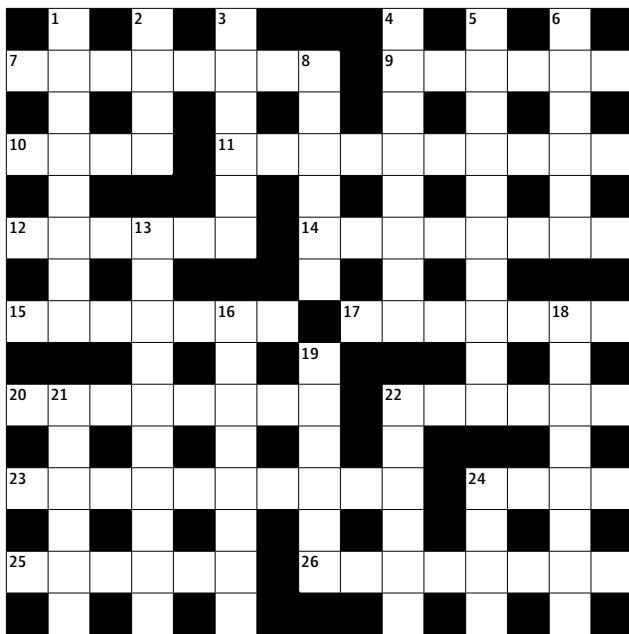


Guardian cryptic crossword



No 27,019 set by Qaos

Across

- 7 Heater or cooler? (8)
 9 "Close to drop, Villa lack wingers!" – cry of suffering supporter (6)
 10 Irishman delivered flower (4)
 11 Criminal robs quite special handles (10)
 12 With 40% cash, Dave's other half gets the drinks (6)
 14 Olive Oyl forgets Pop-eye's 5th anniversary (8)
 15 Afraid to grip the wedge? (7)
 17 Increase loan (7)
 20 A mobile device promoting line for letters (8)
 22 The girl Lois empties guts when fed 50 crusts (6)
 23 Food cooked in little cases (yellow) (10)
 24 Rotavate earth, except underground (4)
 25 IT are furious about the source of DOS attack (6)
 26 Freeze injured cartilage right away (8)

Down

- 1 Not even Blair mistook Noel for singer (8)
 2 Good exercise channel (4)
 3 Sat about with relative inactivity (6)

- 4 Lock trouble revealed by open door? (5,3)
 5 Heavenly image could upset Catholic primate after Sunday (10)
 6 Pop icon collects casual shirt as formal wear (3,3)
 8 Start to record first bees on tape (6)
 13 Critical journalist's article on fixing the match (7,3)
 16 Preserved them clipped, without hair, without tips of moustache (8)
 18 Monk might be in church, albeit tormented (8)
 19 Series: The Saint, complete with halo (6)
 21 Coward uplifted by 1 down's shooting star (6)
 22 Twist succeeded – April fool! (6)
 24 Double 2 minus 0 plus 1 number (4)

Solution No. 27,018

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