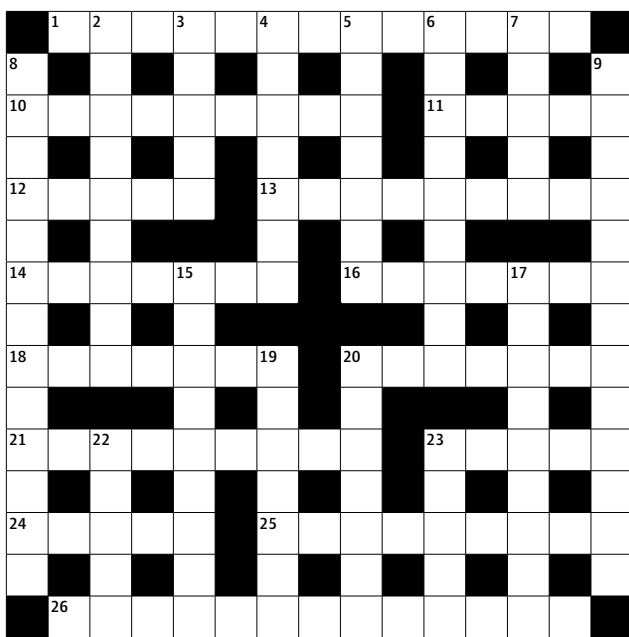


Guardian cryptic crossword



No 27,051 set by Shed

Across

- 1 Nicholas Serota's on board, displaying quality desirable in 13 (13)
- 10 1 dull 7 outside, devoid of life (9)
- 11 Conscious of a send-off (5)
- 12 One grand received by female rambler (5)
- 13 Leader's gift including driving licence, say (9)
- 14 Artist's guide confused clients (7)
- 16 Of a certain age, but worth going out with? (7)
- 18 Go downhill, dividing illicit payment for performing illicitly (7)
- 20 Composer turning up volume in Italy (7)
- 21 Stood in, backing exercise in action (9)
- 23 Maybe son gets Grand Old Party (Republican) revived (5)
- 24 Bird decapitated dog (5)
- 25 Parcel out executioner's equipment: it comes in various forms (9)
- 26 Disregarding instructions, excessive loan's accepted (13)

Down

- 2 In sh*t, rolled joints, getting no appreciation (9)
- 3 She does her best in German city (5)
- 4 Places left in a mess by surgical instrument (7)
- 5 Old flame on the rebound splits leading part of weapon (3-4)
- 6 Still maintaining first figure (9)
- 7 Some complain an examiner's stupid (5)
- 8 8 hot brides died suspiciously – she gets the lot (7,6)
- 9 Composing Thistle with Two Eggs, crack up (3,3,7)
- 15 Drink, for little money, source of true river water in France (9)
- 17 Woody matter in cheese getting bishop unduly upset (5-4)
- 19 Leave, receiving directions to bug secret service (7)
- 20 After gym, theologian was first to get flogged (7)
- 22 Heathen page once more dropping one (5)
- 23 Staged demonstration in silk (5)

Solution No. 27,050

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