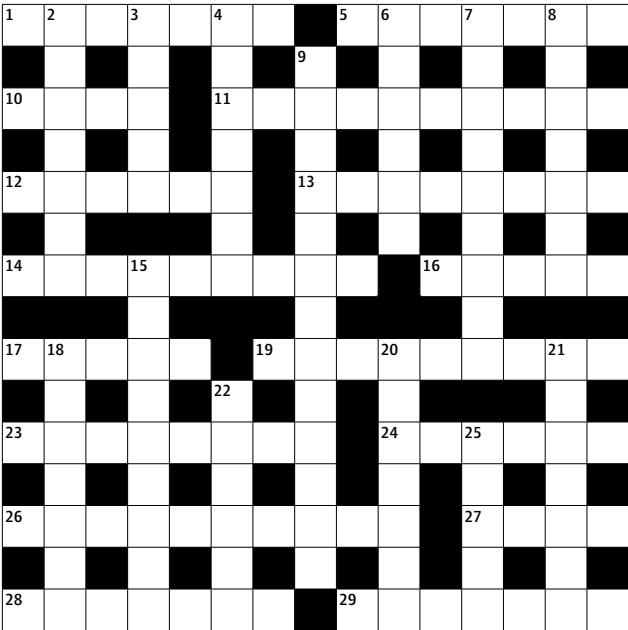


Guardian cryptic crossword



No 27,122 set by Paul

Across

- 1 Dark pitch masking blemish (7)
- 5 Two low grades in remarkable performance as undergraduate? (7)
- 10 One by the side of the road, drinker boozily guzzles (4)
- 11 Diet has the expected result, one overcome by expression of sorrow (10)
- 12 Alien after map to find Earth, perhaps? (6)
- 13 Voice encapsulating almost everything as US author (8)
- 14 Conclusion to Father Ted recalled by thespian critic (9)
- 16,3 Message for all to endorse in plump Christmas bird (5,5)
- 17 Sudden jerk, head on mattress touching springs (5)
- 19 Boring, excruciating test in filling? (9)
- 23 Leave queen to scrub rear, splashing around in the tub (8)
- 24 See 26
- 26,24 If cheap clothes on, I suspect, cops primarily sent out? (3,7,6)
- 27 One in a suit, clobber for the association (4)
- 28 Penalty shot to spare (7)
- 29 Out at sea (7)

Down

- 2 Balancing act – sewiously? (7)

- 3 See 16
- 4 Epic hat designed for livery? (7)
- 6 Going round the twist prematurely, it’s casually suggested? (6)
- 7 Authorities swindle underdogs (9)
- 8 Senior lady cutting fabric (7)
- 9 Bars in house however extremely loose: order locks (5,4,4)
- 15 Again arrange upset boxes she jumbled up (9)
- 18 Is he about to prick cases in specialist bakery? (3,4)
- 20 Bird underneath cup lifted in style overhead (7)
- 21 Hermit – as regards one of these, solitude initially welcomed? (7)
- 22 Fishtails in sausage meat for dog (6)
- 25 Knock over pass, I’m not sure for the substitute (5)

