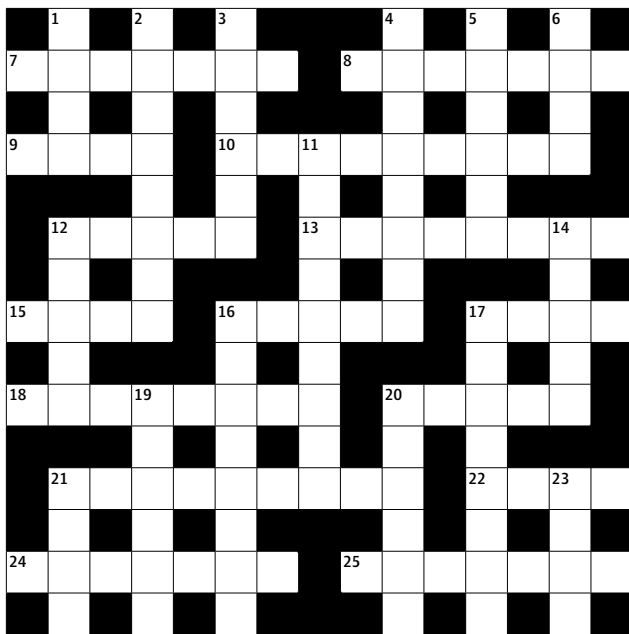


Guardian cryptic crossword



No 27,212 set by Qaos

Across

- 7 Fruit, now delivered (7)
 8 Copies of paper on Sunday (7)
 9 It falls slowly to begin with, at this time (4)
 10 Out-of-shape senator takes exercise, it's said (9)
 12 Snooker player breaks with end of cue (5)
 13 From the east, say, royal Islamic leader to rise again (2-6)
 15 As written, all the world is 80% male? (4)
 16 Like a beer? Nothing left for adult, mildly drunk (5)
 17 Band of cloud (4)
 18 Former VP endlessly accepts foreign money for Native Americans (8)
 20 Look over 50? To begin with, please rest (5)
 21 During exit, May's wrangling with European alarmist (9)
 22 Sports teacher's instruction for Charlie, perhaps? (4)
 24 Stuntman wrestling a cobra – it's tense! (7)
 25 Modest bachelor, somewhat shy, wants female with fabulous heart (7)

Down

- 1 Go bird catching (4)

- 2 English poet getting crisp? (8)
 3 Small joints allegedly lead to explosion (6)
 4 Insect eats rice crackers and earth, wildly (8)
 5 Ruler is extremely popular in church (6)
 6 Not even $1 + 10 = 3$ (4)
 11 Father rejected frippery, upset over her fringe (9)
 12 Ask question of speller (5)
 14 Good cut of meat (beef) (5)
 16 Person snaring new skin of tigress? (8)
 17 Around 500 bathers swim widths (8)
 19 Ultimate in vanity? Henry wears two pairs of glasses to call for attention (3-3)
 20 Heads of schools are worried, 20% might cry (6)
 21 Weed at the waterfront (4)
 23 Punch – drink up (4)

Solution No. 27,211

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