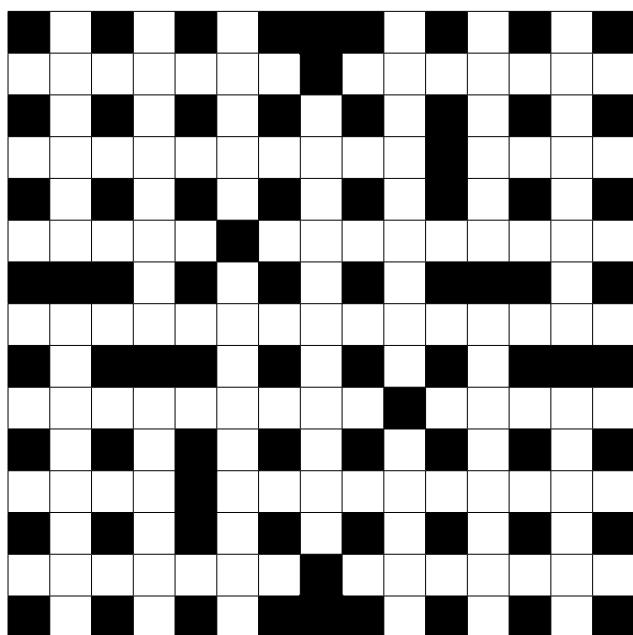


## Guardian cryptic crossword



No 27,226 set by Paul

**The first five correct entries drawn each week win Can You Solve My Problems?**

**Entries to:** The Guardian Crossword No 27,226, P.O. Box 6603, Birmingham, B26 3PR, or Fax to 0121-742 1313 by first post on Friday. Solution and winners in the Guardian on Monday 26 June.

*Solve the clues and fit them in the grid jigsaw-wise, wherever they will go*

- A** A family from Belfast that's poisonous (7)  
**B** Edge clear, as possible target for criminals? (4,5)  
**C** Thoroughly test peevish Bohemian in audition? (10)  
**D** Swimming in Dead Sea till empty – so harder to float in it? (11)  
**E** Red fish fed with brown fag ends (6)  
**F** French dance took off in craze: what might flamenco artiste say? (9)  
**G** Low-calorie option unfortunately rejected by glutton, ultimately, in desire for more (5,5)  
**H** What has host prepared? What's your opinion? (4,4)  
**I** Unaware how to address Italian soldier? Then doff cap! (8)  
**J** Nut in kind of ancient religion terrorising Frenchman? (7)  
**K** Ruminant has successful move to make, reportedly? (4)  
**L** Reading Stevenson inspired by Eliot (good or bad), before introduction to Murdoch, there she goes! (6,5,4)  
**M** By the sound of it, one imitating leather (5)  
**N** Philosopher perhaps between novel and religious text in shop (9)  
**O** Beastly couple shaving heads in harmony (2,3)  
**P** Mrs Grundy runs animal houses (4)  
**Q** Phony quevice or quanny? (5)  
**R** Rifle cleared, safe to hold a gun (8)  
**S** Dog acts like a camel, we hear? (5)  
**T** Ruler in Titan losing it with a Roman emperor (6)  
**U** Submarine meeting dreadful end, might this have stopped the rot? (9)  
**V** A dish, Victoria initially on da throne? (8)  
**W** Volvo finally pulled up with one secured nut (6)  
**X** Frog in congress, happy on back (7)  
**Y** North American animator travelling west around eastern capital (7)  
**Z** Bovine defenceless, wanting affection primarily, whacked (6)

**Solution No. 27,225**

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