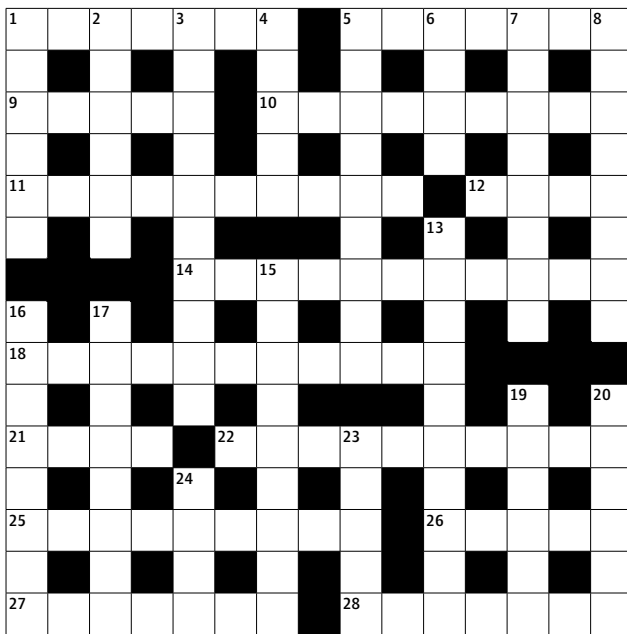


Guardian cryptic crossword



No 27,405 set by Paul

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

Entries to: The Guardian Crossword No 27,405,
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 22 January.

Across

- 1 Pudding, not starter, interrupting fish dish (7)
5 See 26
9 Forever turning old and dirty, every second lying back (5)
10 On with it! (9)
11 English author the Guardian's translated is back on the box (10)
12 Fishwife who survived? (4)
14 In basic parts of music, end improvised around heavy metal for maestri (11)
18 Deals with cities built to be stretched? (11)
21 Bound to need patience, ultimately – a virtue? (4)
22 Dressing prime minister, one is an oddball (10)
25 Short garment beginning to rise in sketch by a couple of artists (2-2,5)
26,5 Old group ending in tub can't get c-clean? (5,7)
27 Gain in knots with set distance travelled (7)
28 Outside broadcast on golf tournament (4,3)

Down

- 1 Club welcoming hot talent (6)
2 State that is dividing America, pants? (6)
3 With rigging of ballot admitted, suits go to pieces (4,2,4)

- 4 Five into nine, the rational number (5)
5 Greek dramatist breaks to pocket first of cash, after bribe (9)
6 Alcoholic drink preferable, not teetotal (4)
7 A philanthropist controlling computers proves perturbing (8)
8 Dangerous Goth losing heart in the clutches of wicked Irish king (4-4)
13 Venial story about Pasquale, perhaps? (10)
15 Blinking Titanic sunk, no good (9)
16 Delicate creature, speaking clock needs to rest voice? (8)
17 Some fortification in fleece and horns, for example? (8)
19 Capital cheers outstanding nation (6)
20 Cock and hen? (6)
23 Trump gone, party! (5)
24 Drink a can, almost (4)

Solution No. 27,404

