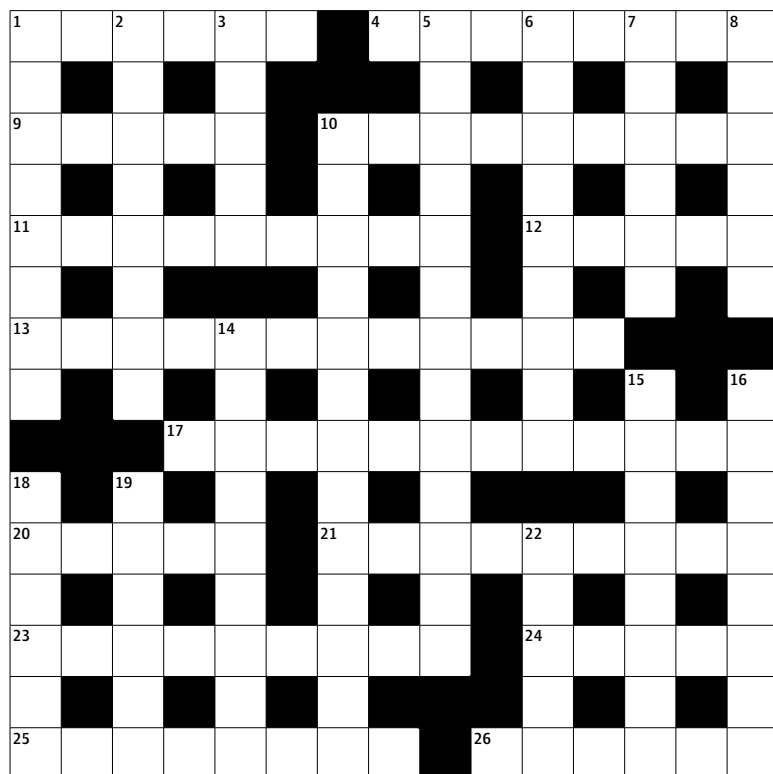


Guardian cryptic crossword No 27,620 set by Puck



Across

- 1 Rough area in bay, perhaps (6)
- 4 Traps fish in cold drink (3,5)
- 9 Blunder into setter's jolly (5)
- 10 Pale flame around national emblem (5,4)
- 11 Drink with setter – a depressing experience (9)
- 12 Drinks with English guy (5)
- 13 Boxer might take this drink, sitting next to bar (12)
- 17 Very small margin showing musical's range (5,7)
- 20 Female, old, with bad back (5)
- 21 Boozer allowed yard plugs? (9)
- 23 Remove gathering in part of collar with a low neckline (9)
- 24 Japanese screen shop Jim closed early (5)
- 25 Driver reversed right over cat? It's messy (8)
- 26 Remain a year in county, returning after time away (4,2)

Down

- 1 Nostalgic setter's one into wine (8)
- 2 Balloonist, say, in bar with tipsy aunt (8)
- 3 Final authority is Mum? (3-2)
- 5 Calm after suffering a terrible bump (13)
- 6 Spot crown jewels kings have left for display (9)
- 7 The first cold before March is over

- in permanently cold area (6)
- 8 Boss finding return of whistle-blower something tiresome (6)
- 10 Joel's peers are surprised he imports porn (5,8)
- 14 Old Morris sales rep? (9)
- 15 Recommending power gets put into a small boat (8)
- 16 Cooler sounding Scot in musical mode (8)
- 18 Minister initially supporting Tory party member's cover-up? (6)
- 19 Say The Lion King's last century acting, in part (3,3)
- 22 Small map of Spain in this month's brief (5)

Solution No. 27,619

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