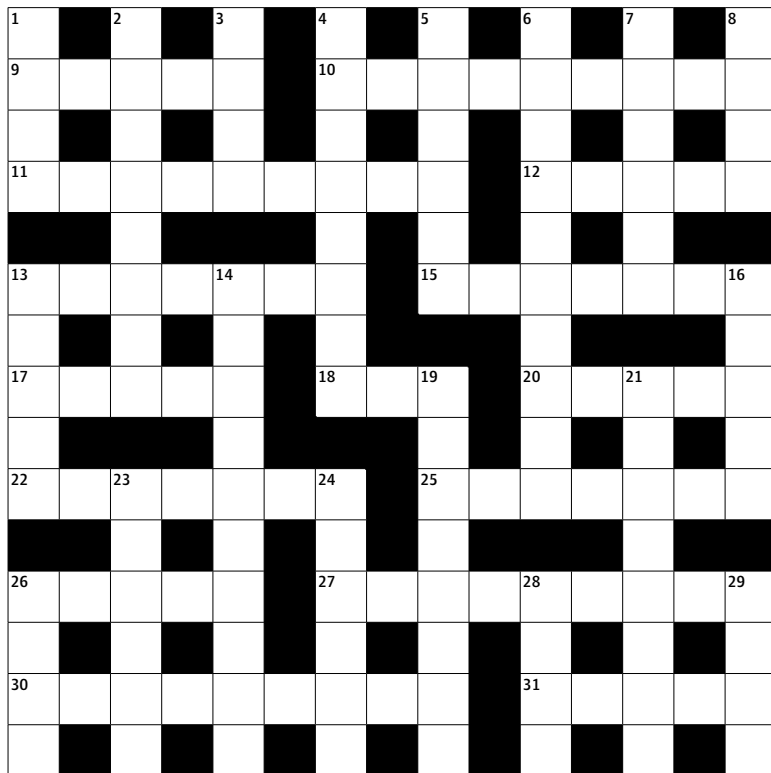


**Guardian cryptic crossword** No 28,138 set by Qaos



**Across**

- 9 He's ripped on the outside, one very trim (5)
- 10 Liberal wearing tousled hair promises to be funny (9)
- 11 Car seen racing over 100 by groups of spectators (9)
- 12 Swear at dog, tips of sausages eaten (5)
- 13 Scottish hero – an expert climber? (7)
- 15 Pocket for everyone in Eastbourne, say, in retirement (7)
- 17 Cat in the past goes round the bend (5)
- 18 Manage to exercise (3)
- 20 Animal urinates over top of hedge, facing the other way (5)
- 22 Plots involve danger close to Paris (7)
- 25 Moon about end of party, to act audaciously (3,2,2)
- 26 Mathematical symbol displayed on a blackboard (5)
- 27 Authorised captive queen to be dropped into English sea (9)
- 30 To have shown fear in checked pants (9)
- 31 Country's at home beyond spring (5)

**Down**

- 1 English rock band, once big in the East? (4)
- 2 Bloke playing old fashionable

- instrument (8)
- 3 Wife's present: divorcing husband at one time past (4)
- 4 Punishment for most of this cake being spongy, right? (5,3)
- 5 Conservative leader to suffer defeat? Time for recess (6)
- 6 £1,000 at first, young learner's car reverses, collecting debts kindly (10)
- 7 Seeks these at Wimbledon (6)
- 8 Ground lies surrounded by water (4)
- 13 Grown apart, as not suitable (5)
- 14 English author, one left in river with powerboats? (5,5)
- 16 Mature writing with Apple device? (5)
- 19 Writers' blocks (8)
- 21 Outside bird caged by old metal (8)
- 23 Talk with pet (6)
- 24 Old queen is turning brown (6)
- 26 Cocaine stolen by family returning to prison (4)
- 28 Woman has dirty laundry (4)
- 29 American's sci-fi novel under construction: centre of Earth is missing! (4)

Solution No. 28,137

