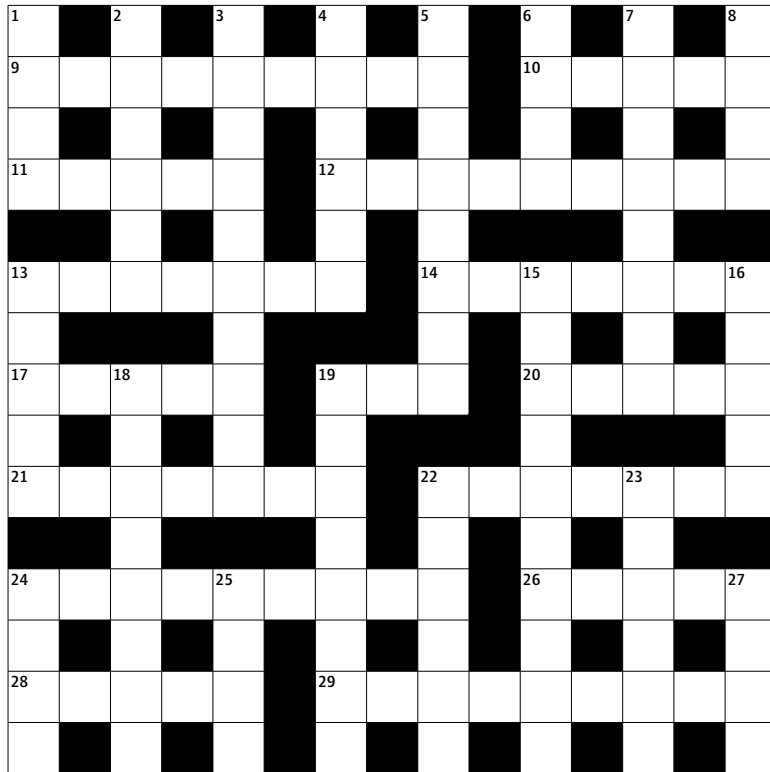


Guardian cryptic crossword No 28,291 set by Brendan



Across

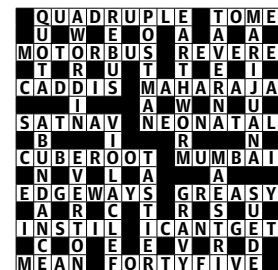
- 9 Would-be president, say, apt to speak frankly, scoffed (9)
 10 I run after a male pal (5)
 11 Communicate what means little, time after time (5)
 12 Diehards bring up a drug, oddly (9)
 13 Lots of politicians do OK on links and connexions (7)
 14 A part of Trump's issue in one state, or all of them (7)
 17 First to go on board with partners securing success (5)
 19 Ordinary man's book abridged (3)
 20 Legislative assembly, in practice, following call to attend (5)
 21 Serious disloyalty from maverick senator (7)
 22 Votes completely screened by machines (7)
 24 Grouped together in plot around illegal scheme (9)
 26 Answer about a NE state (5)
 28 Pence in Wild West got the brush? (5)
 29 Public behind attempt to win playing trick (9)

Down

- 1 GA's neighbour with limitless vote for old tax (4)

- 2 Some voting early, having shifted from neutral (2,4)
 3 Lots of data about slight Southern squalor (10)
 4 Turn up old form of address for Georgia writer (6)
 5 Guided the wrong way, knowing state of successful 9 (8)
 6 Called, sought election? Good (4)
 7 Dessert from flipping United States – I ruin it (8)
 8 Supporting Democrat as president (4)
 13 Bird – it is south of where some in flock gather (5)
 15 Axe the liar, needing change – cheer up, bigly (10)
 16 States opposed omitting conclusion (5)
 18 Repeatedly runs bad treaties (8)
 19 Judge joining outside court as meeting place (8)
 22 Ordered new leader with extra heart? (6)
 23 Drop a question that, in part, is not clear (6)
 24 President in wilderness (4)
 25 A 19 down in Kentucky for Coolidge's girl (4)
 27 Character flaw seen in party politics (4)

Solution No. 28,290



We regret that in the present circumstances we are unable to process prize entries for this puzzle. The solution to each puzzle will still be published online at midday on the following Friday.