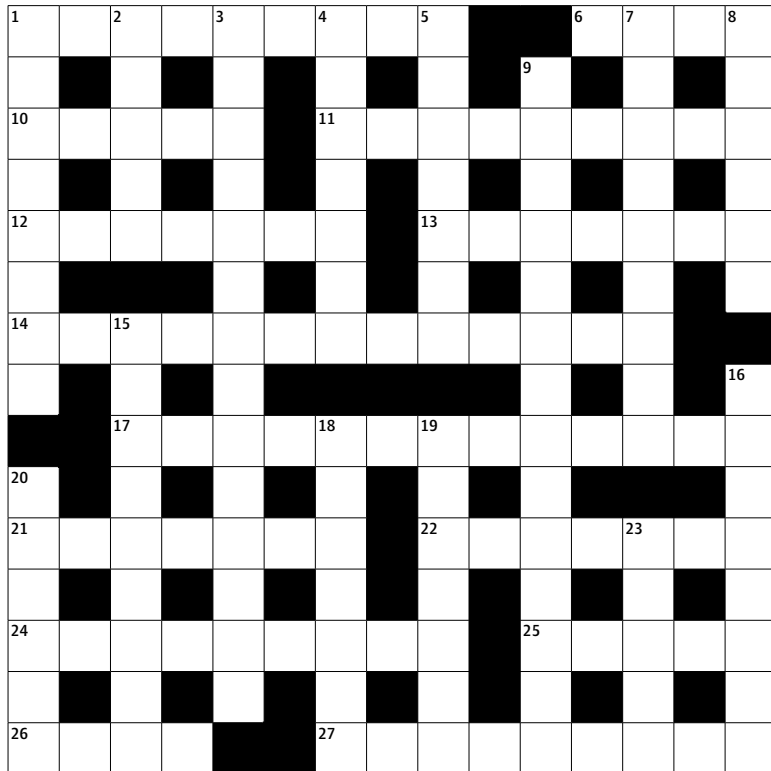


Guardian cryptic crossword No 28,576 set by Vlad



Across

- 1 Overcrowded relationships lasting? Er ... unlikely (9)
 6 Employer's cat second to be taken (4)
 10 Cold drink, one originally left behind (5)
 11 Cave-dweller looked suspiciously at drunk (9)
 12 Cross mouth of Tay to get to Dundee? (7)
 13 Talks quietly to dogs slipping lead (7)
 14 Bloody fantastic job (without catch)! How did you get it? (3,3,7)
 17 Cull in the 18th century perhaps a big step forward (4,3,6)
 21 Doctor paused taking temperature for latest news (7)
 22 Catch journalist drinking rum? On the contrary (7)
 24 Forced flier to land finally – previously arrested (9)
 25 Going around in the nip, openly intimate (5)
 26 Live next to a field (4)
 27 Shots from above hit destroyer's bow – lost about six, not nine (4,5)

Down

- 1 Set way of raising money? (8)
 2 Distressing condition initially explored by northern writer (5)
 3 Fan opinion – sell-out sounds

- annoying (5,9)
 4 Disappoint old and new sportsmen at the centre – sorry! (3,4)
 5 Round trip extremely boring in the event (4,3)
 7 Shock permeates island – without cuts taxes shoot up (9)
 8 Sport I abandoned that is extremely rough (6)
 9 Watch blonde running past it (kept changing her mind) (4,3,3,4)
 15 Dry day – ready with the liquid (9)
 16 Fellow coming out in spots, beginning to suspect rash (8)
 18 Sit around drinking sensible healthy drinks (7)
 19 Creature camouflaged in ball turned over, not dead (7)
 20 EastEnders tough guy is upset – that's plain (6)
 23 Stars from old film genre turned up (5)

Solution No. 28,576

