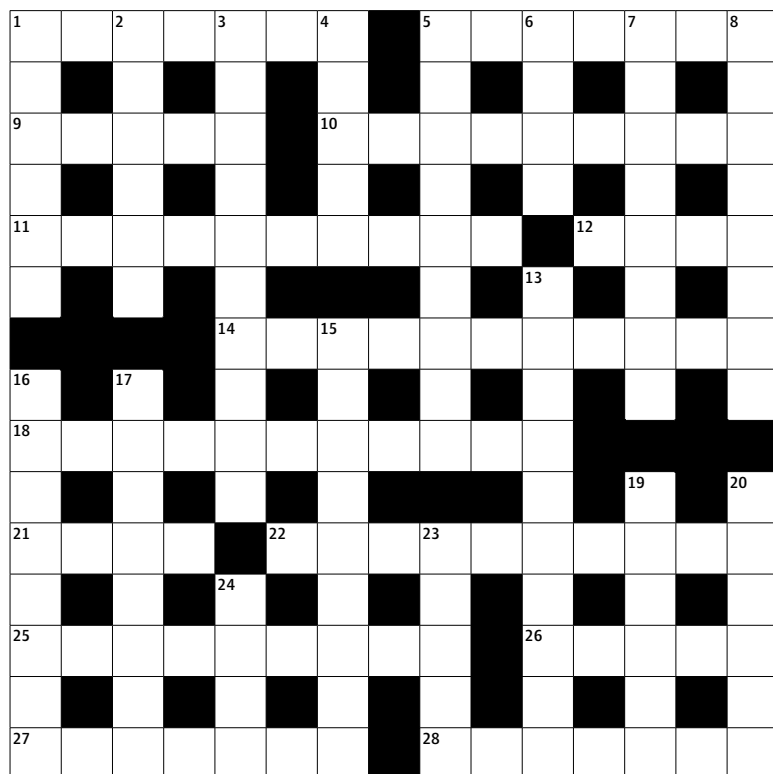


Guardian cryptic crossword No 30,029 set by Paul



Across

- 1 Why it's hard to open where a gap is unclosed (4,3)
- 5 Kid pushed over, veteran shut up (7)
- 9 For example, brain that's stopped (5)
- 10 Neither profit nor gain from holiday flat (5,4)
- 11 18 needs to be anything but neanderthal (7-3)
- 12 Defended by Cuba, Kuwaiti capital (4)
- 14 Sponge back in shower with a bar of soap, having created one earlier (7,4)
- 18 Concerned with supporting Leave (my, that's extreme) - and now this! (6,5)
- 21 Ergo ready for liquid lunch? (4)
- 22 Flier with orbital course, a measure of speed and spirit (5,5)
- 25 Flying weight non-negotiable? (2,3,4)
- 26 European river runs where white castle initially located? (5)
- 27 Scientist's spirit broken by school of players (7)
- 28 18 and he gets counselling (7)

Down

- 1 Doctor oversees surgical procedures that went a bit wrong (6)
- 2 Riverside waiter, earring perhaps,

- with shaved head? (6)
- 3 Smear bit of fish with virus onto vessel (10)
- 4 See 19
- 5 Guard on visits reading novel (9)
- 6 Romeo in drag? (4)
- 7 See 24
- 8 A victory proving elusive in daring feats - trap set? (8)
- 13 Nearby supply cut by carpenter, say, European and Asian wood (6,4)
- 15 Absence of moral rectitude with which 18 vied (9)
- 16 Slight boo-boo at first, skedaddle (5-3)
- 17 Nervous say after a fall, stuffing knocked out (8)
- 19/4 It really is me in motorboat at sea! (2,3,1,5)
- 20 Forward - as one's behind? (6)
- 23 Cube, elevation skimmed (5)
- 24/7 Easy clue: 'Funeral director's special offer?' (4,8)

Solution No. 30,028

