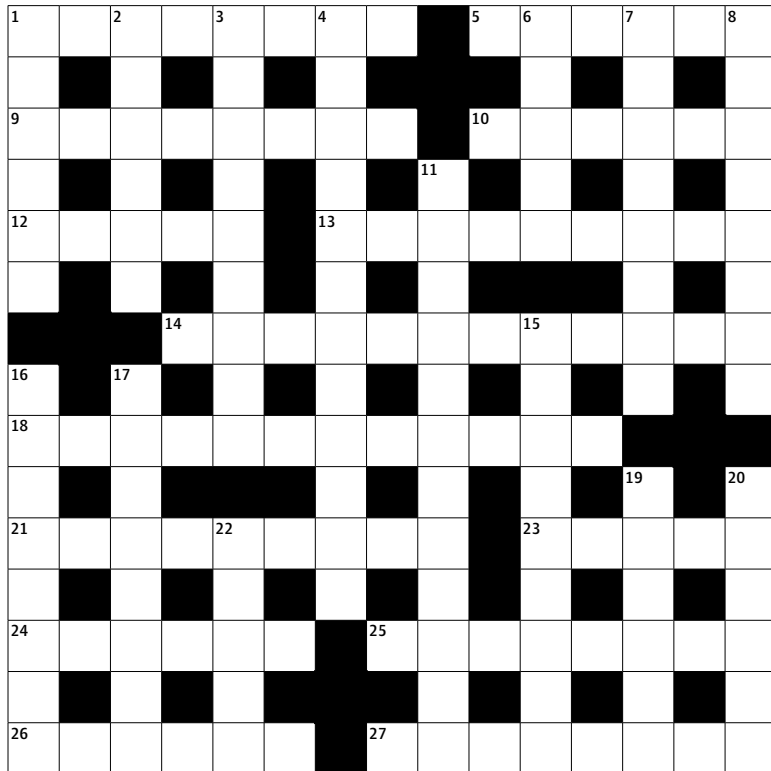


Guardian cryptic crossword No 28,112 set by Vulcan



- Across**
- 1 One may go up in a few ticks (4,4)
 - 5 Alluring, one's castle (6)
 - 9 Plain, nothing to excite cockney (2-6)
 - 10 Sort of chest that may be scraped (6)
 - 12 Order thesaurus in online form? (5)
 - 13 Relatives reform, being adaptable (9)
 - 14 British legislating blasted for its bad language (12)
 - 18 Staying in bed, say, a great honour for a body (5,2,5)
 - 21 The Commonwealth: it could hardly be more distant from Britain (9)
 - 23 Refuse left by dyke builder (5)
 - 24 Giving a signal to be lining up for hearing (6)
 - 25 Officer rank needed to win a seat? (8)
 - 26 Getting to the end of this exhausts one's patience (6)
 - 27 Flag when monarch's aboard ship (8)

- Down**
- 1 Sensitive to pain in small boat (6)
 - 2 Almost making a mess of cake (6)
 - 3 Looking offended, finding bit of toenail in small fish (9)
 - 4 Man forcefully expelling one with ill will (12)

- 6 Some small Amazonian animal (5)
- 7 Alarming to be treated as almost irrelevant (8)
- 8 Served in the army? Not one joined (8)
- 11 Dancing, a girl hadn't to lose all momentum (5,2,1,4)
- 15 Italian speaking in a whisper (5,4)
- 16 Respectably neat, is one less likely to be infected? (5-3)
- 17 Teacher locked up, being wasted (8)
- 19 Assert a company must employ female (6)
- 20 One taking piano course? (6)
- 22 What storms do, circling northern mountains (5)

Solution No. 28,105

