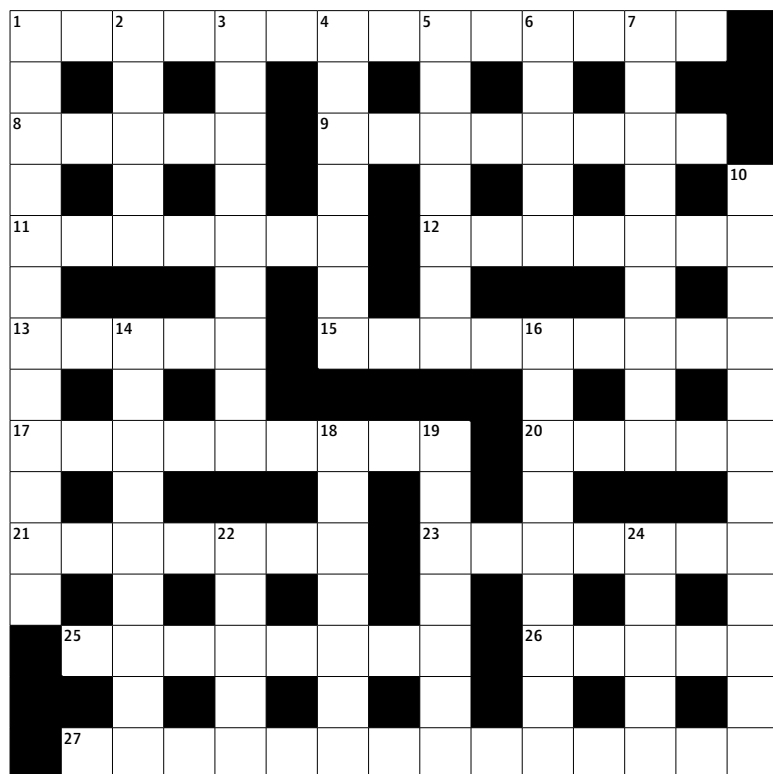


# Guardian cryptic crossword No 28,316 set by Vulcan



### Across

- 1 Lovers of the phonetic alphabet (5,3,6)
- 8 Not hearing about cold drink (5)
- 9 Cliffhanging sort of account? (8)
- 11 Finally arrived, but out of contention (7)
- 12 We must hold girl back at first, potential starlet (7)
- 13 Raise one in army (5)
- 15 Object about ill-considered heavy defeat (9)
- 17 The dafter sort of sitcom? (6,3)
- 20 Already told not to delay purchase (2,3)
- 21 Care had to be exercised in this absurd pretence (7)
- 23 Italian team keeping on leader of chant (7)
- 25 Mark that may be one over the 8? (8)
- 26 Russian author left by such an erotic dancer (5)
- 27 Our narrow separation from the EU (7,2,5)

### Down

- 1 Frenetic head, storming around, looks like this? (3,2,3,4)
- 2 Parrot beginning to make a sound like a crow (5)
- 3 Misaligned, hence moved to No 1 court? (3-6)
- 4 Surprisingly won seat, Labour not being involved (2,5)

- 5 Military doctrine, merely crude when raised (4,3)
- 6 One twice disturbs Len in this relaxing morning (3-2)
- 7 Korean, for one, eats cooking by a Welsh girl (4,5)
- 10 Tweeter reviewed brewed lagers (5,7)
- 14 On the way, carried by Ford? (2,7)
- 16 Clog (old) deliberately ruined (9)
- 18 Poet's title so unusual (1,1,5)
- 19 Doctor to consume fluid and toast (5,2)
- 22 Some virtual example of personal assistant (5)
- 24 Never ever green, even vaguely? That's primarily desert (5)

Solution No. 28,309

