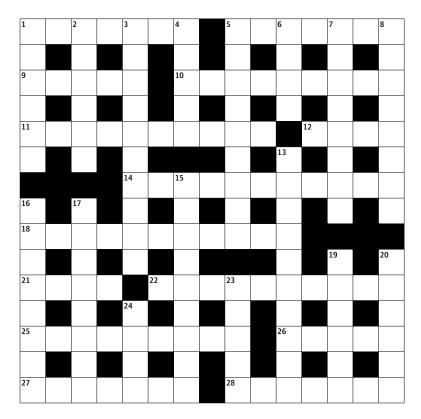
Guardian cryptic crossword No 29,504 set by Paul



Across

- 1 21, islander branded with mark of failure? (7)
- **5** Gossip old PM cut short on voting system (7)
- **9** Only diaspora where outsiders lost in old kingdom (5)
- **10** 21, suit-wearing sailor in khazi (9)
- **11** 21's valuation of staff? (10)
- 12 Belt out repeatedly for 21? (4)
- 14 21's suspicious behaviour (11)
- **18** 21, 21 left chained by violent criminal (11)
- 21 Pocket or collar? (4)
- **22** Pain clear, case of hooligan off getting treatment (6,4)
- 25 Drilling, say, I tear into rocks (9)
- **26** Crack like that as it happens, one having split (5)
- **27** Pipe like mother installed in her ruin? (3,4)
- 28 Permanent nurse picking flower(7)

Down

- 1 Rules with leg before wicket, say, under review (2-4)
- 2 Element in God having broken that is (6)
- 3 Radio star on, stir crazy (10)
- **4** I see 21 served up some Mexican food (5)
- **5** Having various keys in pockets initially, only a lot for a screw? (9)
- **6** Some retrogressive yob's

accolade? (4)

- 7 Hot resin I left, tipped over (8)
- **8** Fire, new work unit is in essence gutted (8)
- 13 Evidently painful climbing in heels on stumbling in Alpine kit
- **15** Lapse relating to account (9)
- **16** Stretch, and man gets punishment (8)
- **17** Legs welcoming pants, most intimately those? (8)
- **19** Ice in jug? (6)
- 20 Sin absent before arrest (6)
- 23 Group able to swim freely? (5)
- 24 A convict up for party (4)

Solution No. 29,503

