



Across

- 1 Southern salesman rejected ringing hotel for drink (8)
- 5 End of spear missing a wild beast (6)
- 10 When rude theatre turned blue (5,3,7)
- 11 Scientist right about old guide (7)
- 12 Bang end and hurt nuts (7) (7)
- 13 Despite everything being detailed, concept failed in the end (8)
- 15 Businessmen overheard double-cross (5)
- 18 Badge from Maine small child brought back (5) (5)
- 20 Careless type half-cut in hospital department (8)

- 23 Pest controller and trampolinist, maybe (7)
- 25 Found back in same rut at summer's height (7)
- 26 Given equal billing, finalist wins over another taking drugs (4,3,3,5)
- 27 Clear backing to protect the hedge (6)
- 28 Little boy catches bug (8)

Down

- 1 Spring a leak (6)
- 2 Swimmer's wine order written up with hesitation (3,6)
- 3 Muddy like lake? (7)
- 4 Encountered headless woman in chemical compound (5)
- 6 Found hiding in

- simple surroundings, America toppled ruler (7)
- 7 A quietly concealed bug (5)
- 8 Tax collector's admitted to a gentle touch to change image (8)
- 9 Society gets a load of samples (8)
- 14 Form sore about a lecture (8)
- 16 Anger about trip cut short in train (9) (9)
- 17 Having small growth drained after objections raised (8)
- 19 Grim experience that's bad eating place for truckers (7)
- 21 A secret's said to have been of benefit (7)

- 22 Physicist's original model working (6)
- 24 Spill out of bed before class (5)
- 25 Frenchman turns up for rave (5)