



**Across**

- 7 Firm holding stock essentially in reserve (5)
- 8 Bigot has 'black' changed to new expression that sounds like another (9)
- 10 Pill regularly taken before fever - a serious one (6)
- 11 A rabbit's foot, possibly the result of taxidermist finally having animals butchered (8)
- 12 Completed examination of the countryside (8)
- 13 Tide turns for Casanova (4)

- 15 Power tool absorbs last bit of oil smear (7)
- 17 Variable routine adopted by goatish fellow (7)
- 20 Stationer, haberdasher or pharmacy, primarily (4)
- 22 Soldier wearing coat, and Scotsman portrayed in David Copperfield for instance? (8)
- 25 Reduce charge about to be introduced by gallery (8)
- 26 Being prosecuted or released? (6)
- 27 Not charged to be a member of Equity, perhaps (9)

- 28 Go ahead and take snuff (5)

**Down**

- 1 Feature of pub - there's nothing left inside fit to drink (4,5)
- 2 Seaside resort beginning to be trendy (8)
- 3 Aggressive landlord, one with beer lacking head (7)
- 4 Is one chasing fellow, or running wild? (8)
- 5 Screw which a carpenter may use (6)
- 6 As beer might be recorded, for the most part (2,3)
- 9 Bring up bird in conversation (4)
- 14 Clay moulded with paste shows rigidity (9)
- 16 Part of pressure MP has is stress (8)
- 18 Might it stock up with hard crackers? (8)
- 19 Closure of shop amid sad demise of hampers (7)
- 21 Party of women associated with new area of London (6)
- 23 Most of gunge is horrible (4)
- 24 Scorn being fey? (5)