

Cryptic 043 by Leucine

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Across

- 1 Shallow bays (mouthfuls for narrator) (6)
- 5 Make up prosiest comebacks (8)
- 9 Philosophy covers alternative line on weathermap (8)
- 10 Johnson's shock when predecessor taken short? (6)
- 11 Zeal of frantic *Messiah* nut (10)
- 12 Hibernian abruptly delivers one in the eye (4)
- 13 Big guns arrive when I'm kicked out of Law (8)
- 16 Epic on radio features novelist (6)

- 17 Thwart some of fiery mien (6)
- 19 I stand in wind at inconclusive proceeding (8)
- 21 Fleck assailed biblically down south (4)
- 22 With hindsight, preconcert sulk calamitously signals flat (10)
- 25 Cloth cap in American convertible? (6)
- 26 Like Benedict, perhaps, turn back weary wrapped in large layers (8)
- 27 Flex sore knee for fuel (8)
- 28 Pachyderm time ahead of topless street player! (6)

Down

- 2 Dramatist batting around brain disease (5)
- 3 Snag when director's cut includes one of *The Birds* (5)
- 4 A cowboy hat? Keep it, my lad! (7)
- 5 Ransack unusual visitor to Bethlehem (7)
- 6 Flower by White House: first-term Presidents often tell of making a corsage (7)
- 7 An office supply merchant? Victoria, perhaps, that woman in Bow (9)
- 8 Ah, Iceland, crazy for Mexican food! (9)
- 14 Reason to limit Courage? (9)
- 15 Harlequins hooker dropped as matter of convenience? (6,3)
- 18 Figure otherwise about insolence (7)
- 19 Teach me about Slasher! (7)
- 20 St Nick briefly swallows Whopper in battlefield bulge (7)
- 23 Climbs where greaves fit (5)
- 24 Stir up sound of disputes (5)