

ACROSS

- 1 Symbolic picture concerned with award ceremony (14)
- 9 Hard centre surrounds tedious job (5)
- 10 Acting partner in charge of a Central American country (5,4)
- 11 A diary salesman backing trainer? (7)
- 12 Thin and wavy fish outwardly active (7)
- 13 At this point in the rehearsal (4)
- 14 Green tea's brewed by young people (9)
- 18 Placed ideally in tree (9)
- 20 Celebrity turns from vermin (4)
- 22 Honest support (7)
- 25 Following trial, tucked in with a will (7)
- 26 Hormone replacement for gene's root (9)
- 27 Send it back with the tax (5)
- 28 Rebuilt Bard's theatre, do act (5,3,6)

DOWN

- 1 Wrongly pierce notes on cookery (6)
- 2 Decency to support one tyre change (9)
- 3 An ugly thing – a styer, perhaps (7)
- 4 Under a spell and thence transformed (9)
- 5 Model pleads for jobs (5)
- 6 Artisan upset old foreign royal (7)
- 7 Nothing on grape plant is for sheep (5)
- 8 Infantile and shabby, I get removed (7)
- 15 Exit scene dramatically for a living (9)
- 16 Type of fan for the dentist? (9)
- 17 Hear sad music playing, make light jacket (7)
- 19 Regalia smashed in African country (7)
- 20 Knight knocked back German name, seeking Italian dish (7)

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21 Niche for politicians' holiday (6)

23 Part of a step in escalator is ergonomic (5)

24 Mean to be close (5)