

ACROSS

- 8 Oxford, say, essentially lacking waterproof plastic (8)
 9 Ambassador meeting a fellow in opposition (4-2)
 10 Outside pub, couple getting Aussie beer (6)
 11 Left acting job in mid-contract (8)
 12 Fresh coatings on the fence (8)
 13 A ruminant, I see, is lacking oxygen (6)
 14 The merit of being abroad at present (3,3,4,5)
 18 Wealthy, fashionable people in rock group (3,3)
 20 Square leg fielders - ultimately they're there to be hit (8)
 23 Royal woman cultivated marihuana after leaving university (8)
 24 Whacks yobs roughly at first (6)
 25 Customer that's after extremely cool books (6)
 26 Leader of executive thought to have lost official ballot (8)

DOWN

- 1 Sport featuring trap close to flag (6)
 2 Beer bottles also catch one's eye (5,3)
 3 Ruler: "I'm leaving army unit" (6)
 4 Factory arrangements could not inspire working (10,5)
 5 Fellow traveller beginning to scare trendy couple (8)
 6 Hospital radio broadcast No. 1, perhaps (6)
 7 Criminal pinching TV, etc for entertainer (8)
 15 Garment, generally small (8)

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- 16 Court stops actors making clips (8)
 17 Cashes in on achievements (8)
 19 Mariners spotted around middle of Thames (6)
 21 Foreign coin changing hands for a quid (6)
 22 Concept unacceptable outside India (6)