

ACROSS

- 9 Italian patriot takes the biscuit! (9)
- 10 Directly opposed to bear (5)
- 11 I'm given money to confiscate (7)
- 12 Hired having accepted proposal (7)
- 13 Got a trace spilt on army clothing (9)
- 16 Some frantically playful trick (5)
- 17 Gaining a favourable impression, urging sheriff's men inside (13)
- 20 Uncommonly pure Eastern coin (5)
- 21 Opposed to clergyman not finishing starter (9)
- 24 Turned out with band, playing a series of venues (7)
- 25 Revolutionary to dig around for cigar (7)
- 27 Guide the animal (5)
- 28 Casual worker with long hair, an enticing woman (9)

DOWN

- 1 Pupil going madly around, leering (6)
- 2 Keep tight hold on travelling bag (4)
- 3 Kidnap sailor on tube (6)
- 4 Lump of earth fish has left to eat (4)
- 5 Turning from a main road site, rested desperately (4,6)
- 6 Little telescope agent put on mirror (8)
- 7 Become tired by the way with one's paving (10)
- 8 Public relations having order for forecast (7)
- 14 Intensely delighted with unusual tapered urn (10)
- 15 Gunshots AI misinterpreted leading to fierce attacks (10)
- 18 Prime minister leads earl to first performance (8)

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- 19 Object, though in favour of cricket match (7)
- 22 Fairly attractive (6)
- 23 Thick old boy on shredded suet (6)
- 25 Arrived with accountant and yours truly (4)
- 26 Sign of love, chaps (4)