ACROSS

- **1** Humanity expert placing tag on polo shirt (14)
- **9** Reversal of vessel carrying the French for you (1-4)
- 10 Spar worker at sea after being dismissed (9)
- 11 Aztec, he longs to keep level (7)
- 12 Glowing diatribe about returning help (7)
- 13 Strikes successful songs (4)
- 14 Condemns grammatical units (9)
- 18 Tasks and duties surrounding queen (9)
- 20 Stuck-up people with no head for gentry (4)
- 22 Choose one mother and get the best (7)
- **25** Small number in all-in struggle for wool fat (7)
- 26 So valiant making rescue (9)
- 27 The engineers at that place (5)
- 28 Vegetable from city pours out to junction (8,6)

DOWN

- **1** Before noon, gets through and entertains (6)
- 2 Part of pitch will affect job (9)
- **3** Needles in right joints (7)
- 4 No grips, so poor medical forecast (9)
- **5** Alter design sometime in the future (5)
- 6 Good conundrum for hotplate (7)
- 7 Greek character slur lacks time (5)
- 8 Savage upset Italian in the undergrowth (7)
- **15** Young birds sent off with learner sing badly (9)
- **16** Secret plotters have new role for Spanish gent (9)
- **17** About code of contrition (7)

Saturday, 20th April, 2024											No. 16,640			
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- **19** Direction finder's range (7)
- 20 New on Street, work without a break (3-4)
- **21** Global body to have break from public disorder (6)
- 23 Roof worker kindled again on return (5)
- 24 Chief eastern US state (5)