



**Across**

- 1 Lethal characters fighting alongside soldiers of normal intelligence (3,5)
- 5 Special desserts and flavourings (6)
- 9 Delay in trade union support and guidance (8)
- 10 Fermat's last problem is absorbing stuff (6)
- 12 They took care of Caligula etc using a drug preparation quietly dropped in a cocktail (10,5)
- 13 DiMaggio periodically visited a villain (4)

- 14 Son, visiting *large* Spanish island, left note - a series of them (5,5)
- 17 Clown reluctant to talk about some teachers in stall (7,3)
- 18 Festival presenting Trotsky retrospective? (4)
- 20 Debauched hedonist hugs Peter during gathering? Take precautions (2,2,3,4,4)
- 23 Rotter defaced toy (6)
- 24 Hello! Aussie bouncer has caught blasted emperor (8)
- 25 See the money in Dubai that's shelled out for institute (6)

- 26 My itch to gain attention met with a premature end (6,2)

**Down**

- 1 A competition to eat tons and behave badly (3,2)
- 2 Sluggish service at Charing Cross? That's not new (9)
- 3 Keep Lady Day for indulging in passionate love (4,2)
- 4 He sings Ravel retrogradely (5,7)
- 6 Puritanical nonsense written about English actress (8)
- 7 Damage a rib (5)
- 8 Veronica's fit to join expedition (9)

- 11 Sharia police disrupted work in parish (12)
- 13 Copper in endless debate gets heated? Just so (9)
- 15 Native undressed for doctor, at home in Lincoln? (9)
- 16 Rock anthem in Carmen? It's an abomination (8)
- 19 A roundabout way from Belgrade to Uruguay (6)
- 21 Proprietor with unique houses – and highest in rent (5)
- 22 Call up mainly just to check agreement (5)