



**Across**

- 7 Vessel used with pestle for grinding bonding material (6)
- 8 Stretch neck to better see knowing and clever daddy-long-legs (5,3)
- 9 Minor issue? Regulation concerning mature years, maybe (3,5)
- 10 Some nicest uses for an ancient bride's belt (6)
- 11 Constituent represents an irregular soldier (8)
- 12 Explosive sex involving umpteen from time to time (6)
- 13 Lamenting, we

- hear, leading performer - Venus maybe? (7,4)
- 18 Medicine man's counterfeit article (6)
- 20 Reject short walk on treeless upland (4,4)
- 22 London area primarily set up over revolutionary works (6)
- 23 Immorality of warped promiscuity, twisted society briefly rejected (8)
- 24 Justifications of French barriers (8)
- 25 Culinary herb not initially backed for Asiatic wild ass (6)

**Down**

- 1 Base equipment needed to get car moving (3,4)
- 2 Heel's argument about sesame (8)
- 3 Turbulent episodes of afternoon engaged in whisky tipples (6)
- 4 Effect of drugs turning some mafiosi so cranky (8)
- 5 Items discarded from planes over America (6)
- 6 Book space for store of food (7)
- 8 Nasty centralisation with no right for old way to punish offenders (3-1-4-5)

- 14 Black medick plant; an extraordinary thing once (8)
- 15 Civic dignitary planting tree on isle, say (8)
- 16 Bobby gains height in this? (7)
- 17 Dreadfully raw test for one who studies hard (7)
- 19 Male sparrow hawk encountered circling US park finally (6)
- 21 Predatory bird savaged parrot (6)