



**Across**

- 1 Subject of 18 widely witnessed? (7)
- 5 Reproduction with spiteful woman begets parrot (7)
- 9 Beneath mask of grumpy loner is supportive guide (5)
- 10 Where increase in tension can set off quarrel? (9)
- 11 Shouting, perhaps, in a manner of speaking (8)
- 12 My robe fell open at an early stage (6)
- 14 Stagger drunkenly and give lascivious gaze over shoulder? (4)
- 15 Vital element in risqué but ridiculous nickname (10)

- 17 Dance of restored king through city? (10)
- 18 Reputedly indolent superstar (4)
- 21 Using "Madras" causes interpersonal conflicts (6)
- 22 Trousers money cutting trees producing mast (8)
- 24 Bird seed for tropical plate (9)
- 25 Edward came back to Susan's velvety skin (5)
- 26 Compose an extra vocal song (7)
- 27 Forces reportedly trained in excess (7)

**Down**

- 1 Jovial type with most auspicious bird (7)
- 2 American relic, a vessel to have at one's mercy (4,4,1,6)
- 3 Flogger takes up rod after Sven loses shirt (6)
- 4 Favourite topic for children? (5-5)
- 5 Daunts Dexter and Angus, for example (4)
- 6 Scene of maritime revolt gives illusion of prosperity (8)
- 7 Hired Clapton? Rue mistake and get smack (4,5,3,3)
- 8 Water tower (7)

- 13 Cheer a born misfit's loathing (10)
- 16 Decree the Arabic scenery-chewer needs support (8)
- 17 Supplement to fish is unfavourably received (7)
- 19 Reduces the French prefecture! (7)
- 20 It's old, young lady brought up in lodgings (6)
- 23 Raise soldier (4)