



Across

- 1 Repartee rotten in maturity (8)
- 5 Curse a follower with brilliance (6)
- 9 Household composition, a schoolboy's bane (8)
- 10 Fruit beginning to go off is still fruit (6)
- 11 Melody range right for a high flier (8)
- 12 Jackass is idolised held by St Francis (6)
- 14 Flourishes an unfinished drink before unfounded desires (10)

18 Broken deck

- bleeps when spotted (10)
- 22 Loveless alliance acceptable about the physical world (6)
- 23 Flustered French film maker returns in elderly condition (8)
- 24 Overseas on a boat carrying the king (6)
- 25 Crazy about crooner's piercing (8)
- 26 Pass an alien insect? Quite the reverse (6)
- 27 Sloth slides off, gathering new energy (8)

Down

- 1 Execute and fulfil top job (6)
- 2 Mild serum Edison keeps around (6)
- 3 Could wine be drunk by rookie (6)
- 4 A dark green building that is seen on the lawn (6,4)
- 6 Yearns to have up-to-date craft (8)
- 7 Tea Party restarted at The Ok Corral (8)
- 8 The most flavoursome wine in a trial (8)

13 Unbiased crew in

- single situation (10)
- 15 Chelsea Bun Dante provided was plentiful (8)
- 16 Eric's toe, rotten and unworldly (8)
- 17 Press to make smaller (8)
- 19 Steady establishment for an Arab? (6)
- 20 Good man has plenty of bad blood (6)
- 21 Common era sage sharpened saws (6)