



Across

- 1 English conservationists managed church portal (8)
- 5 Sad and lonely bishop beginning to expiate on paper (6)
- 8 CFO's predecessors peak north of the border (3)
- 9 Decoy from the underworld reversing bull wagon (10)
- 10 Wimpy carries small bowl for fashion designer (8)
- 11 Buoyant love in a bachelor pad perhaps (6)
- 12 Sound of butterfingers back from Wilderspool (4)

- 14 Hoody vexed about wife returning old couple's greeting (3,2,3,2)
- 17 Is caucus overwhelmed by a lot of variety? (10)
- 20 Staple substance for rumination? (4)
- 23 Writer currently pursuing Attorney General's responsibility (1,1,4)
- 24 Funny poem: eccentric keeps one in store (8)
- 25 Counsel conceals call to somewhere on the River Mersey (10)
- 26 Tattoo family head to foot (3)
- 27 Whinge including everything, allegedly, that's making your skin creep? (6)

- 28 Haggard's audience come closer (4,4)
- Down**
- 1 Joint accommodation in space (5,4)
 - 2 Expert's conclusion: a drink invigorates (5,2)
 - 3 Wanted man went regularly, first thing in the morning (2,4)
 - 4 Like to run in loop supplying aid to catharsis (6,3)
 - 5 Daring head of Volkskammer abroad in disguise (7)
 - 6 Rush through desert, female lieutenant holding enemy up (6,3)
 - 7 See 13

- 13/7 Support argument in favour of district rugby player (6,3,7)
- 15 Reported restaurant user may take one to cause an explosion (9)
- 16 Betting expert's mask adjusted in Communist Party rising (9)
- 18 Ruling most of port wine out of order (2,5)
- 19 Unhappy Liberal texted affection with humility (7)
- 21 Originally old Réti innovation finessed in Carlsen's English Opening (7)
- 22 Immediately repeated words of reproach (3,3)