ACROSS

- 1 Concerned with spying, a lad and gang docker nobbled (5-3-6)
- **9** West in this place? In what place? (5)
- **10** River boy like Big Brother? (9)
- **11** Calming flutes played on river (7)
- 12 Old thespian is a demanding person (7)
- 13 Legal authority of Italian car maker (4)
- **14** Middleman's gone, we bet, blotto (2-7)
- 18 Hear two girls joining fabric (9)
- 20 Brewed teas satisfy fully (4)
- 22 Bathroom to come next, it's contained (2,5)
- 25 Teams essential to chapel evensong (7)
- **26** Model singer entertaining monarch given reprimand (7-2)
- **27** Loathe section of drab hornpipe (5)
- 28 Dutch general, an outcast, isn't chuckling at the time (6,8)

DOWN

- **1** Fish admitting fighting, though might he run away? (6)
- 2 Ills prove disturbing in excess population (9)
- 3 Look up suitable exercises (4-3)
- **4** Outside ring, change in length of garish sign? (4,5)
- 5 Measure round West and search for water (5)
- **6** Showing bitterness in front of social worker is brave (7)
- **7** Boot out wild civet (5)
- 8 Contestant in event ran third (7)
- **15** Made clear in good Latin city (9)
- 16 Leap to ask earnestly about the church (9)

Sunday, 1st December, 2024

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- **17** Either side of fasting season, get payout in abundance (7)
- 19 Number one current but back issue (7)
- **20** Shed loses end with explosive noise, the whole thing! (7)
- 21 Confident in ancient city of finding moneylender (6)
- 23 Dance with sauce (5)
- 24 Moved slowly and guarded against loss, Cockney fashion (5)