

ACROSS

- 7 Pupil taking in convict for protection (8)
- 9 Collection of tablets elates Dicky (6)
- 10 Bars much-hyped bridge partners (4)
- 11 Sailor Bill embraced by brothel-keeper? It's what goes on over the way!
(10)
- 12 Tell otherwise if leading to conclusion of testimony (6)
- 14 I obtain one sneakily from the outset (2,6)
- 15 Tempt one learning trade to ignore first four items (6)
- 17 Gives a meaning to numberless challenges (6)
- 20 Rather thin greeting given to US President? That's about right (8)
- 22 Glass container with hole – shock! (6)
- 23 Carefree holiday island with plenty skipping work (10)
- 24 Nest's uninteresting without first of eggs (4)
- 25 Writing s-statement of belief (6)
- 26 One's against me backing operatic song or religious song (3,5)

DOWN

- 1 Plant responding to sun – no result in a storm (8)
- 2 Crucial crosswords finally give solutions (4)
- 3 Some primitive art (hysterically crude) (6)
- 4 Convert that is clutching decorated missal (8)
- 5 Taking pessimistic view of time-saving possibly (10)
- 6 Note about a regulation in African nation (6)
- 8 A piano's inferior to noble feature of organ (6)
- 13 Be trendier, unconventional – choose an exotic mate! (10)
- 16 Meet company with sort of knowledge not generally available, we hear
(8)
- 18 Fish in flustered dive swallowed by marine creature (3-5)
- 19 Opera hat? (6)
- 21 An accomplished old disrupter of governments (6)
- 22 Funny man, a good one, into mockery (6)
- 24 Some made a fortune ignoring the words of others (4)