Crossword 15,755 Set by Mudd

ACROSS
1 Flower, bottom part raised, we hear? (9)
6 Erect – but it may be knocked over (3,2)
9 Digit so short, then doctor required (5)
10 Next to a pine, plane (9)
11 Fish ends in a stew eaten by urban musician (3,7)
12 Get lost in daydreams, hoovering (4)
14 Container containing old drawing (7)
15 Looking west, one piece borders on Burundi, a country in Africa (7)
17 Expected result with bargain vegetable (7)
19 Found in hat, head of large fish (7)
20 Burn rubber plant (4)
22 Only a little flash, perhaps, no Cannes do! (10)
25 Bully astronaut, moving gun to the back (6-3)
26 Loathe a dull type endlessly going around hospital (5)
27 Approaching end of daylight, what comes next? (5)
28 Shenanigans, as poser rolls around with first of ladies in the grass (9)

DOWN
1 Half-hearted, cold, vicious dog? (5)
2 Jupiter below in the ranks, initially (9)
3 Pimento, on getting pickled, full of black stout (10)
4 Climbing equipment affected, mountaineer ultimately held on (7)
5 Substance in meat for container absorbing energy (7)
6 Contact that’s in the book (4)
7 Point finally off top of pin (5)
8 Fear something with teeth, did you say? Old reptile (9)
13 Work made it more excessive (10)
14 Cheat touring a European city in sumptuous clothing (9)
16 Promise between two people, both having later broken (9)
18 Old king – just character, might you say? (7)
19 Slip in a loaf (7)
21 Shoot last of bullets over puritan (5)
23 Local game for a US hat (5)
24 Flier in binder (4)

Copies of How to Sound Clever by Hubert van den Bergh and The Superior Person’s Book of Words by Peter Bowler, published by A&C Black and Bloomsbury, will be awarded to the senders of the first three correct entries opened on Wednesday January 24 Entries marked Crossword 15,755 on the envelope, should be sent to Weekend FT, One Southwark Bridge, London SE1 9HL. Solution on January 27.