Crossword 15,868 Set by Mudd

ACROSS
1 Geisha and mother in disguise, ending in Japan (10)
6 Old Tom's detailed work (4)
9 A noted course of study? (10)
10 Large number missing Thor's appeal (4)
12 Suggested trade-in going as instructed? (5-7)
15 One wrested from server, sweet game (5,4)
17 Somewhat unspectacular, goalkeeper's speed (5)
18 Broadcast finished, delivered (5)
19 Rake in money at first, as deal made (6,3)
20 Stuff fit for the sewer, book penned by Hardy here as out of order? (12)
24 Tight result constituency returned (4)
25 British nationals primarily dropping back a couple of places, as Europeans (10)
26 Not a sausage from Bologna – Dagenham! (4)
27 Train in front of her travels miles ahead initially – try to catch it? (10)

DOWN
1 Border on soft fibre (4)
2 Home open, not house (4)
3 Merrier boy requiring WC desperately, in little drinking establishment (12)
4 Going over obstacle, popular bay (5)
5 Delight of failing a number of times more? (9)
7 One's a nana! (10)
8 Supporter with aim to find view (10)
11 Revolvers in every direction under belligerent leader (4-8)
13 Alert activated (8,2)
14 Show plan said to be heartless, inspiring Conservative swine (10)
16 Painting taken abroad on right ship (3,6)
18 Broadcast finished, delivered (5)
21 Treasure formidable banking opportunity at first (5)
22 Drop a story that's old (4)
23 Worn in shade, sunglasses lifted (4)

Solution 15,867

Solution 15,856

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 June 6. Entries marked Crossword 15,868 on the envelope, should be sent to Weekend FT, One Southwark Bridge, London SE1 9HL. Solution on June 9.