Crossword 15,820 Set by Mudd

ACROSS
1 High street, dark (6)
4 Get used to much cost, a new hospital unnecessary (8)
10 Transport leader playing for change? (7)
11 Current working, then off (7)
12 Fish's heading off for stream (4)
13 Bird having bitten hound's head, mauled dog critical? (5-3-2)
15 A place for road (6)
16 Heroism not usually appetising (7)
20 Right wound's bandaged – that's encouraging (7)
21 Competitor's nose? (6)
24 Where entrenched soldiers would go is extreme (4-3-3)
26 A little jazz in crude metal (4)
28 Picture on police records a warning to coffee drinker? (7)
29 Trough, where style icon holding nose at first (7)
30 Comprehensive cleaning up? (8)
31 Still about five flip (6)

DOWN
1 Asian, south European (8)
2 Given fresh coat, first of vases broke (9)
3 Join wally on the radio? (4)
5 Piece of meat doubled at the double? (4-4)
6 Thankless lunge far out, official initially missed foul (10)
7 Short hearing, five hundred and three (5)
8 Time, perhaps, briefly secured for grub (6)
9 Shining precious metal, blue (5)
14 Huge numbers on journey, travel agency offering cheap prices (6,4)
17 Feeling stretch, one splits (9)
18 Fresh bun swallowed, though never taken down? (8)
19 Couple allowed jewellery (8)
22 Universe composed of suns, made of stardust, primarily (6)
23 Head – top of cerebellum encased by skull, say? (5)
25 Bird hunter missing originally (5)
27 Story that may unravel? (4)

Solution 15,819

Solution 15,809

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 April 11. Entries marked Crossword 15,820 on the envelope, should be sent to Weekend FT, One Southwark Bridge, London SE1 9HL. Solution on April 14.

Jotter pad