Crossword 15,728 Set by Rosa Klebb

ACROSS
1 Part of Russia is revolting and reportedly less than sober (7)
5 Surplus kept by Otto's parents (2,5)
9 Available to rent, ultimately you can still purchase it (5)
10 Soften up last pair of climate change deniers (9)
11 Left-leaning character is in favour of corporal punishment (9)
12 Money came first, introductions to grandees after (5)
13 Luxury purchase set back your old checking account (5)
15 Awkward end of Edward II, impaled by fellows and followers (9)
18 Pet bears hang about for pieces of cake (9)
19 Couple short of place fit to accommodate fine horse (5)
21 Talked about origin of hunger strike together (5)
23 Reposing, I rearranged flimsy clothes (9)
25 Extra ingredient contains cocaine, getting people hooked (9)
26 Regularly cut wheat in this country (5)
27 Judge admits princess hides here (7)
28 Weapon wounded left-wingers of unimpeachable niceness (4,3)

DOWN
1 Butt and odd bits of belly in need of shave (7)
2 Lavatory fixtures in Spooner's telephone kiosk (7)
3 Customs of outspoken authors (5)
4 Dotty sat on wobbly ladder with leg on either side (9)
5 Fish head leaving terrible smell (5)
6 Crooked partners, wife and husband, on board boat (4-5)
7 Remove coat of most important foreigner (5)
8 Gracious, short lament over member of colony (7)
9 Steaming hot chocolate banishing depression and pain (9)
10 Motor sport is brilliant source of status for shady character (9)
11 In gainful work, for sure (9)
12 Rampage antisocially over parade (7)
13 Custom of outspoken authors (5)
14 Steaming hot chocolate banishing depression and pain (9)
15 Sackcloth and ashes in Barking (7)
16 Extremes of polar cold costing one dear (5)
17 Are you texting to support rising female Indian leader? (5)
18 Pet bears hang about for pieces of cake (9)
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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 Tuesday December 19. Entries marked Crossword 15,728 on the envelope, should be sent to Weekend FT, One Southwark Bridge, London SE1 9HL. Solution on December 23.