ACROSS
1. Amusingly he exaggerates strange trait associated with a circus (12)
8. Celebrity is blocking change (1-6)
9. Called about family position (7)
11. Former writer’s ultimately futile outlay (7)
12. Part of intro, uncertain beat (7)
13. Mob in store reportedly (5)
14. Somewhat loathsome person for example always coming back (2,1,6)
16. Revised alerts received by parent causing confusion (9)
19. Supper’s beginning – our group welcome eastern dish (5)
21. Sudden increase overwhelming place – leading to extravagance (7)
23. Close a north-eastern passage (3,4)
24. Uncovered Scot having slip on return before court? Right (7)
25. Initially impolite, discourteous in referring to listener? Senseless (7)
26. Girl with thief, one not willing to spend (5-7)

DOWN
1. Lively golfer producing lofted shot? (7)
2. Group held up by rogue unit, erratic (7)
3. Find fault with record wood expert revealed? (9)
4. Cutting about old pack (5)
5. Author Arthur’s payment for liberation picked up (7)
6. Transgressor nicks soft bowler (7)
7. Dial those people, posh (so!) – confront consequences (4,3,5)
10. Influential figure in emergency broadcast by English (4,8)
15. Poster girl, one working to make entry fee (9)
17. Unexpectedly general increase (7)
18. Doctor’s child suppressing desire (7)
19. Language as relative clutches vessel, hot? (7)
20. Time to interrupt one looking rudely – race official (7)
22. Entirely consume “repast” – gulp regularly? (3,2)

Solution 15,770