ACROSS
9 Girl chess player, faultless (4-5)
10 Difficult years making one tough (5)
11 Building a target for event held on water (7)
12 Apprentice in series, keen at heart (7)
13 Drink with group of players no end (3)
14 Shopkeeper’s beard has her worried (11)
15 In Pontefract, Eddy appeared on stage (5)
16 Employ trick right away (3)
17 Annoyance as card game curtailed (5)
18 Don’t declare amount to be paid for a crowd control measure? (5,6)
19 Dicky in trouble (3)
20 Almost certain matter involves large balance (7)
21 One of three allowed on outing (7)
22 Oxygen required by huge Greek character (5)
23 Poet holding pipe recalled young lady coming out (9)

DOWN
1 A red line inside proofreading mark (6)
2 Senior relative in apartment, glaring (8)
3 Illuminated with it (8,2)
4 Operatic star keen to come over (4)
5 Quite rare, yet growing wild in former times (10)
6 Some overhead, but not this bird! (4)
7 Bishop organised church’s regional office (6)
8 Exclamation from leader of pop band rejecting first love (2,6)
9 Disregard skirmish, notwithstanding (5,5)
10 Welcome rise (10)
11 A plea for help secures top fireproof material (8)
12 Question one, then hang traitor (8)
13 Sailor needing to achieve objective (6)
14 Character wanting to hire over short period (6)
15 Most important element (4)
16 Belch, perhaps, in play touring Belgium (4)