Crossword 16,664 Set by Mudd

ACROSS
1 Associate team with potency (8)
5 Cut up in fast waltzer? (6)
9 Corked wine not half appalling, it's considered (8)
10 Shrub for brew (6)
12 Boat that may roll over, just the same? (5)
13 Thin exhaust, did you say? One's at the back of car (5,4)
14 Ace speller (6)
16 Fruit cheapest when cut badly (7)
19 Admitting murder, gun used in downfall (7)
21 Still of cook filling container with blood (6)
23 Opener for Durham's opening, or not when unreliable? (5,4)
25 Permission, for example, like that (3-2)
26 Hard-hitting, with hard bits? (6)
27 Italian food carried back by Bedouin, or a Cameroonian (8)
28 The sea full of similar elements (6)
29 Methodist law seen to change around end of May (8)

DOWN
1 Down tools in box (6)
2 Shaky time for little singer? (5-4)
3 Criticise every run collected by batsman (5)
4 Crinkly crisps, two-thirds off, reduced (7)
6 Broke: cash generation riding on this? (9)
7 Crazy target of very young trainer? (5)
8 Transcontinental region, northern area set for redevelopment (4,4)
10 Lighter grip, head released (4)
11 Child in Israel infuriated old teacher (9)
12 Fine, big fish (5-4)
13 Party disagreement occurring when hot and cross, perhaps? (8)
14 Mistake: err briefly (4)
15 Shower soap, perhaps, latest fashion (7)
16 Proposal as a gesture? (6)
17 Awaiting settlement, everything horrible? (2,3)
18 Place for a lower seat (5)

The FT Christmas Crosswords, set by Gozo, will be published in Weekend FT on December 24

Jotter pad