Crossword 17,318 Set by JULIUS

FT News Puzzle - a monthly cryptic crossword relating to the month's topical events

ACROSS

1 New in, breaking...Jan 1: a red card for the PM (7,6)

8 Lula's financial capital? (3,5)

9 Write down parent's strict instruction to impressionable teenage son (6)

10 Key English international sportsperson detained in Southern Spain (6)

12 Yeah, Mark threw a swinging punch (8)

13 31 days of misery for Mr & Mrs Sprat? (9)

16 Wild time in Florida (5)

18 Where to find movers and shakers shaking a dash of vodka and soda? (5)

19 Show landlord item of mail carried aloft (3,6)

21 Raise revenue from city in Kansas which Zahawi won't recognise (3,5)

23 Oh! Papa's retired (ex-American poet) (6)

26 Imperial seat Anne The Fourth rejected? (6)

27 Rulers who might wear penguin suits? (8)

28 Things to be cleared up on Jan 6 as toys played with, obviously! (8,2,3)

Jotter pad

DOWN

1 1st of January: Sean modelled casual clothes (5)

2 Copper starts to pursue predatory attacker, which is refreshing (5)

3 Sick as a parrot, United held twice in rubbish season (8)

4 Tricky predicament for Stan, Ollie and Rishi? (7,4,4)

5 Following run, Murray is up for it (5)

6 Former Times party animal entertained a sociable person (9)

7 Our Lady Mone got mixed up with dodgy trade (5,4)

11 Firm finally firing routine employee (3)

14 The end of Pelé, mother country's outpouring (9)

15 Poor advice on a 21? (9)

17 This paper features the French (awfully posh) strip club (5,3)

20 Upset this PM every now and again (3)

22 Daughter left inflamed in a manner of speaking (5)

24 Cuts 25's book from top to bottom (5)

25 Destroy prince (5)

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