Crossword 17,493 Set by MUDD

ACROSS
1 Illegal drugs in fruitcake? (8)
6 Primate is back, one embraced by king, say (6)
9 By the sound of it, someone lapping up drink (6)
10 Winding road great, having left roundabout, where gear gets shifted? (3,5)
11 Fresh meat ultimately for animal (4)
12 Squid and ale in a stew, note, for Mexican dish (10)
14 Gangster, warmer one (8)
16 Specimen sealed in plastic, as evidence (4)
18 Old man joining a movement of the European avant-garde (4)
19 Winger in last cup match, having missed header, coming to the centre? (8)
21 Far out, where art thief may have taken painting? (3,3,4)
22 Too brutal, some grips (4)
24 Novel’s villain, a bad boy of ancient Rome inspiring revolutionary best-seller (8)
26 A drippy hanger-on? (6)
27 My broadcast heard on radio, finally (2,4)
28 Tool wasn’t one for building (5,3)

DOWN
2 Intensify some light for the audience? (5)
3 Scorer with role for match (11)
4 Poison water within region (8)
5 24 across: bet name changed in book (5,3,2,1,4)
6 Going to pot, aligns cue (6)
7 Damage horse, docking tail (3)
8 Asian lad abroad touring classy Spanish territory (9)
13 Avatar wearing shade of pink (11)
15 Refuse measure for bird (9)
17 Part of stable, one working for horse (8)
20 Alien transported by more mysterious object streaking across the sky (6)
23 Artistic movement, saucy stuff (5)
25 Fury when flag doesn’t open (3)

Solution 17,487

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