CROSSWORD
No 17,527 Set by BASILISK

ACROSS
1 Way of making large-scale hospital drama retrospectively (6)
4 Unavoidable conclusion in favour of church cuts (8)
10 Score own goal after fouling someone near (7)
11 Free energy harnessed by explosive missile (7)
12 Educational establishment beginning to train military personnel? (4)
13 Ravel loved piece for device operated with pedals (10)
16 Craftsman had to leave work with other people (6)
17 Damage largely to do with bird (7)
20 Two numbers added to puzzle (7)
21 Government soldier detained by engineers (6)
24 Swerved from side to side and broke down outside this ground (10)
25 Join new drilling rig (4)
27 Confession of undercover agent exposes graft (7)
29 Name plastered all over abridged literary work (7)
30 Firmly establish supply centre round new hospital (8)
31 Children’s writer’s first piece of complex material (6)

DOWN
1 Perhaps school’s use of the Bible is expedient (8)
2 Eating meat spread Coronavirus (11)
3 What player may need is support (4)
5 Speculative paper dismisses article for nothing (8)
6 Is the creator of satire almost going crazy? (10)
7 Prompt delivery of letter (3)
8 Discredit heroine protecting troubled state (6)
9 Plead case for excellent cause (5)
14 Join forces to back English proposal with passion (11)
15 Be responsible for a favourite judge (10)
18 Wearing tight catsuit, one is finding difficulty fitting in (8)
19 Control tax again? (8)
22 Agency isn’t on the rocks (6)
23 Start putting down good person (5)
26 Claim brief note ignores question (4)
28 Place for quarrying stone (3)

You can now solve our crosswords in the FT crossword app at ft.com/crosswordapp