CROSSWORD
No 17,528 Set by GAFF

ACROSS
1 Finally hear express in the distance (6)
4 Leaves receptacle in small coach (8)
10 Defence supremo (7)
11 A figurehead leaves OFWAT struggling with foul discharge (7)
12 Cloak and dagger to plumb loose ends (4)
13 Plum quota of gold for fanatic (10)
16 Catch criminal parent (6)
17 Dirt covering French woman’s ring (7)
20 CAD magazine (7)
21 Lightbulb lit, he’s content and happy (6)
24 Herb produced by AI at 1 across (6,4)
25 Split cost of housing (4)
27 Stirred unfinished tortoise dish (7)
29 Awful sound receives award (7)
30 Dress for action and title honour (8)
31 Starts half-term in woe (6)

DOWN
1 Paid to grass about charge (8)
2 Kind business leader covered in speckles provides doorstep deliveries (11)
3 Perfectly topless ermine (2,1,1)
5 Customer caught in retrograde kind of arse-covering (8)
6 Clouds of talcum you finally mixed with oil (10)
7 Line-up reveals initial score (3)
8 Jam ladies between redheads and engineers to make new connections (6)
9 Could be jade, extremely well-cut (5)
14 Surgeon often found in acting circles? (11)
15 Endless void permeates hostile child-minder (10)
18 Management born to make characters bold (7,1)
19 It’s down to woman’s underachievement (8)
22/26 Book company to host a white hot barbecue outside (6,4)
23 Treat badly-grown bananas (5)
26 See 22
28 Starts settling into residential address (3)

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