CROSSWORD No 17,599 by BASILISK

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Solution 17.598

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JOTTER PAD

ACROSS

- **1** Demonic choir alarms cast in ghost story (1,9,5)
- **9** Tentatively backed restriction involving closure of Scotland Yard (7)
- **10** Publication of dates and facts helping to represent Neanderthal man accurately (7)
- 11 Learning about adopting new register (5)
- **12** English school certainly introduces problem for reader (9)
- **13** Recall small screen almost broadcast arrests (9)
- arrests (9) **15** Gun emplacement briefly protecting
- this country's defensive assets (5)

 16 Officers have to abandon ship (5)
- 18 Favourite part I'm unsure is crude (9)20 Wasted reporter's head cradled by more
- competent senior colleague (9)
 23 One who wades in, ultimately after
- brave man (5)

 24 Add value to skin on lips and
- moisturise? (7) **25** Partners book actors for modern production (7)
- **26** Crossing a fine line might be his downfall (9,6)

DOWN

- 1 Immediately when bowler goes to ground? (2,3,4,2,1,3)
- 2 Dull sound of drone instrument (7)
- **3** Lack of productivity on decline following reorganisation (9)
- 4 Ingredient of healthy meal? (5)
- **5** Humiliation is core element of sad American story (9)
- 6 Regular visitor viewed overhead as part of income tax (5)
- **7** Managed to fire rifle (7)
- **8** Men's sons chortle about being difficult to find (4,4,7)
- **14** Who potentially rose up to protect this woman? (9)
- **15** What never affected performances of The New Seekers or The Modern Lovers? (9)
- 17 Quiet jibe about elected party (7)
- **19** Organ score set aside for particular occasion (7)
- 21 What makes soldiers drink? (5)
- **22** Search for water in blue ocean endlessly (5)