CROSSWORD No 17,704 by MONK

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Solution 17.703

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JOTTER PAD

ACROSS

- **7** Dotty, Sue, Meg and Mo like diamonds etc. (8)
- **9** Slow publicity linked to currency-exchange fee (6)
- 10 Lawyer drops fine soft cheese (4)
- **11** Simplistically conveys extraordinary DIY finesse (10)
- **12** Formerly burning unopened station one enters (6)
- **13** *Metropolis* director left with gold following sport (8)
- **15** End of idle chat about going on baby carrier (4,3)
- 17 Old coin press nicked with difficulty (7) 20 Oblivious state of retreating sibling on
- extremely pricey heroin (8)

 22 Notice brand on both sides of rawhide
- (6)23 National Theatre's last *Judas* regularly
- engaging Charlie Gray, say (10) 25 Smuggled boxes round bay (4)
- **26** Become confused by wife's clumsy gait? (6)
- 27 Excessive current consumes last Italian electrical engineer (8)

DOWN

the rocks (8)

- 1 Stiff examination (10)
- **2** Fool in stream scratching backside in 1609m or so (8)
- **3** Worn-out small honey bears stop! (4,2)
- 4 Composer turned on after pub (8)
- **5** Stick with sadness, maybe losing face (6)
- **6** Bog roll initially held in air when wiping bottom (4)
- 8 Juvenile's escort holds up plant (6)
- 14 Hunted rare bats in cave, perhaps (10)
- **16** Vulture loves odd bits of Graham on
- **18** River mostly divides lush county (8)
- **19** English superficially read old northern language (6)
- 21 Tarantula in hand usually bites (6)
- **22** Managed senior police officers, gaining rank (6)
- 24 Pick up food for so long (4)