ACROSS

- **1** State colour of chicken (5,6,3)
- 9 Starting to fall in line, backing overhaul (5)
- 10 Seen tense, perhaps, in this state? (9)
- 11 Relative eager to get material (7)
- 12 Flyer allowed to follow bit of foliage (7)
- 13 Don't start to float split (4)
- 14 Finished push for high level of activity (9)
- 18 King and journalist in seat run away (9)
- 20 Short of knowledge in Foreign Office? (abbrev)(4)
- 22 School where girl eats cooked dace (7)
- 25 Action to greet us, perhaps (7)
- 26 Get rid of damaged mini make someone happy about it (9)
- 27 Weight of a leopard (5)
- 28 Corny issue resolved, bank on formal ending (5,9)

DOWN

- 1 Eager to go right, scattering grain (6)
- **2** Repugnant attack (9)
- **3** Make an earnest request during centre attractions (7)
- 4 Furniture maker rested among the trees (9)
- 5 Cancel Schumann? Ultimately only part (5)
- 6 I'd heard about reactionary (7)
- 7 Stand and relax with student (5)
- 8 Endure the elements (7)
- 15 Laurel, say, always innocent (9)
- 16 Fine clue maybe includes northern effect (9)
- 17 Fugitive fits bolt to gate at last (7)

Saturday, 18th May, 2024 No. 16													6,668	
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- 19 Retailer does not start rearranging studio (7)
- 20 Coastal batting support (7)
- 21 Sacrilege in this place, extremely scary (6)
- 23 French friend to leave with Spanish friend (5)
- 24 Unknown organs lasting for ages (5)