Across solutions are thematic. Their clues do not necessarily contain a definition, though some are alluded to.

ACROSS
1  Anxiety around heath, nothing less (8)
5  Sound, you understand (6)
9  Sesame oil spilt – nothing lost (3,5)
10 Capacity of old vessel reduced by one quarter (6)
12 Land on time from long distance (5,4)
13  A creature caught with a rod – a rod (5)
14  Cloth to dispose of first to last (4)
16  A lot of explosive too unstable in oven (7)
19  Area about to be bordered by a goal (7)
21  Fish caught and smuggled (4)
24  Left Italian red, not finishing contents of carafe? (5)
25  German tennis player suggested Nadal's article (9)
27  Lengths to which they move slowly when placed on high ground (6)
28  Monopolises the principal (8)
29  To an extent, it denotes education (6)
30  Meg left corrupt race meeting (8)

DOWN
1  Holy man coming from Le Mans (6)
2  Country house’s grand spread (6)
3  Stigma, albeit isn’t common (5)
4  Batsmen 1 and 2 in key roles (7)
6  Unaccompanied singing in palace – and lap dancing! (1,8)
7  Fun having vermouth during Oxford term (8)
8  Artist in German capital filling his face (8)
11  Viking Red explorer, terribly heartsick but chats away (4)
15  Merkel’s description of broken reed in unproductive bit of enterprise (9)
17  Voted to assign shares in plot (8)
18  Worrying about ornamenting (8)
20  Expert returns to exile location (4)
21  Bowling during series creates storm in Sri Lanka (7)
22  President no longer – disgusting toerag? (6)
23  Santa likely, initially, to move cautiously on it? (6)
26  Disconcerted – but following increase, hardened (5)

Solution 15,556

JOTTER PAD