ACROSS
1 Item of wear that's never worn out (12)
10 The estate needs me for organisation (7)
11 Hastened back with class report (7)
12 Poet of golden study (5)
13 Highest peer many found out of place (8)
15 Tearful student Mary chose to have special treatment (10)
16 A knot seamen consider dangerous (4)
18 One among the lesser folk in feudal times (4)
20 O Valentine! (4,6)
22 Where to keep the money when you've made a profit (2,6)
24 Jar in which pound may be kept in ready money (5)
26 Honorary professors – ie retired but retaining integrity (7)
27 Back seat taken by passengers (7)
28 Large marine mammal in mammoth close-up (8,4)

DOWN
2 Kind of people who follow the herd (7)
3 Girl holds no alternative site for Hamlet (8)
4 At end of evening, general merriment (4)
5 Telephone a teacher – he'll crack the whip! (10)
6 Organised relay in good time (5)
7 Swingers’ bar (7)
8 Faultlessly dressed – like perfect partners? (7,6)
9 Old coppers found bike (5-8)
14 One politician finished his career bankrupt (10)
17 Labour candidate? He's admitted taking dirty money in return (8)
19 Traveller allowed key is satisfied (7)
21 Terrible strain on a ruler (7)
23 It’s cold, we hear, in the country (5)
25 Start work in French (4)

SOLUTION 15,442

The winner’s name will be published in Weekend FT on February 4.

A prize of The Good Word Guide by Martin Manser and How to Sound Clever by Hubert van den Bergh will be awarded for the first correct solution opened. Solutions by Wednesday February 1, marked Prize Crossword 15,454 on the envelope, to the Financial Times, 1 Southwark Bridge, London SE1 9HL. Solution on Monday February 6.