CROSSWORD
No. 15,539 Set by AARDVARK

ACROSS
1 Boss retiring with state aid, ultimately hit hard (6)
4 Harsh banking system backed and put in action shortly (8)
10 Business representative with bow-tie oddly missed dessert (7)
11 Country lane at the end more rocky, it’s said (7)
12 Unknown in play gets US award (4)
13 Humdrum type of recording given to intellect (10)
16 Jazz fan and companion close to sixty like certain tunes? (6)
17 It’s a bugbear training with half of team around Derby perhaps (3,4)
20 Sheep eating round lair westwards became healthier (5,2)
21 Clip opens beer from Germany, Austria etc (6)
24 Wild bronco found around street by Jack that’s held in the ring (6,4)
25 Dance manoeuvre in France I tackle peripherally (4)
27 Dated individual in part of Oxford? (7)
29 Type of grass occupied by English churchman turning pig out (7)
30 Bachelor swirling given farewell and place to sleep (5-3)
31 Slate housing unknown to English architect (6)

DOWN
1 Communication system gets sign of approval by board (4-4)
2 Those in the running races circulate medal at home (11)
3 Partly manage to name academic institution (4)

Solution 15,538

PALINDROME EVEN
L R E R U S X
PLE A C O D I R E C T O R T Q R E O A C
D O T I M E R E P O R T E R
L I D I T Y G E T
I D E N T I T Y O A S T
A T S C T
D I O R E P H E S I A N
B R P I R L
B E C O M I N G N U D I S T
R W F E C R O
W I F E O F B A S H A I R S
A S L N I W A
G N A T E N T A N G I N G