ACROSS
9 Article with piece of advice about course of hors d'oeuvres (9)
10 Another commander elected (5)
11 Empress suffering a strain (7)
12 Frilly thing that is put on? (7)
13 Longing for money in Tokyo (3)
14 Shah flew – got abroad to put in an appearance (4,3,4)
17 Load vehicle and leave (5)
18 Girl being fair? Not quite (3)
19 Follow dancing queens? Not initially (5)
21 Pretty much in a way that is sensible (11)
23 Odd male following sport (3)
25 Intended to reach Greek character, left a prescription (7)
27 Biting piece (7)
28 Change the last word, last in ballad (5)
29 Good early look at Bond film (9)

DOWN
1 Poor mate shot (6)
2 Riddle of spades found on coach (8)
3 Baby's left a wet blanket (10)
4 Part of the world captured by Vespasian (4)
5 Shabbily dressed in blue, close behind one (4-2-4)

SOLUTION 15,531

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 May 17, marked Prize Crossword 15,543 on the envelope, to the Financial Times, 1 Southwark Bridge, London SE1 9HL. Solution on Monday May 22.

The winner’s name will be published in Weekend FT on May 20