ACROSS
1. Craze coming over to British part of Canada (8)
5. Interstellar measure in space worked out about right (6)
9. Give hosts extra time to set off (8)
10. Fight to mask droop in face (6)
11. A thousand breaking pieces shattering, then an indefinite number, for example (8)
12. Travel guide not entirely relevant, a sucker being sent the wrong way (3-3)
14. Team entering biathlon, fifty missing out on good sport (4,6)
18. Frivolous talk from servant carrying rifles around (10)
22. Thief in pound (6)
23. Hole in floor, reverse cross-section (4-4)
24. Two nations – or one without leader? (6)
25. Slowly advance with an inclination for battle (8)
26. Initially, girl guide is well (6)
13. Old queen pens dirge composed on old instrument (10)
15. Student’s first securing work on the web (8)
16. Crazy jokes in these (8)
17. I live beneath female domestic (8)
19. Develop program with attention (6)
20. Rookie unable to get a grip? (6)
21. As medicine taken, zero needing to get better (6)

DOWN
1. Around the outskirts of Dundee, not all is quiet (6)
2. Ultimate in madmen, say? (6)
3. Error clear after a turnaround in sport (6)
4. Wife – one taking a chance on small beer (6,4)
6. Inspiring type partial to foxtrot – am I naturally uplifting? (8)
7. Wave as saline as a salt-water creature (3,5)
8. Go shortly into jail that’s split down the middle (8)
13. Old queen pens dirge composed on old instrument (10)
15. Student’s first securing work on the web (8)
16. Crazy jokes in these (8)
17. I live beneath female domestic (8)
19. Develop program with attention (6)
20. Rookie unable to get a grip? (6)
21. As medicine taken, zero needing to get better (6)

SOLUTION 15,502
BURMA STAR SMART
O A L R E E E U H
WHITE AT A C A N T E R
S C I D S O C E
B E R K E L E Y S Q U A R E
S S S M U L I
W E L L M E E T A G A I N
E A S E A B R O
E I G H T B A L L O M E N
T E R N F E
H A R D A S T A R B O A R D
E B B B R E R A
A V E R A G I N G C L I F F
R E N C A X E N A
T E R S E K I N G L S Y N N

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 April 12, marked Prize Crossword 15,514 on the envelope, to the Financial Times, 1 Southwark Bridge, London SE1 9HL. Solution on Monday April 17.

The winner’s name will be published in Weekend FT on April 15.