

Thursday, February 27, 2025

Cryptic • by DA



9:45-11:45 ~ 2hrs

ACROSS

- 1 Fruit half called for a shot? (8)
 5 Con installed paywalls as security measure (6)
 10 Male bird discovered by expert (5)
 11 Dutch master conflated term with brand (9)
 12 Swift, perhaps, on pocketing billions to pay to publish eco-concern (6,9)
 13 Regularly sits upon cycle stores, seeing foxes (9)
 15 Falsify passport of stiff? (5)
 17 English track deep somatic phase (5)
 18 Poirot's knack a write-off? (9)
 21 Pure alliance saw the strife involving safeguard's introduction (5,2,1,7)
 23 On wrong Pixar flick? (6-3)
 24 By sound, spotted shell strapping NZ tree (5) **KOI**
 25 Blast from Bangkok blitz reported (6)
 26 Cheers Cockney mate, downing a double (4-4)
CHIN-CHIN

DOWN

- 1 Just missed getting brown dresses, Chanel top, stockings, cast-off cap... (4,5)
 2 ...new jumper, constantly rented out (7)
 3 Rental provider in parental? (4,2,3,3,3)
 4 Typesetter strokes axes up (5)
 5 Choose to eat second meal: prime, fatty menu disclosing spicy meat (4,4,7)
 7 Caught on river, fleeing like a fox (7)
 8 Congregated to absorb sacred books, sacred song (5)
 9 Some deb's pleats made to stand out (8)
 14 Root veggies he chopped, operating hotel chain (8)
 16 Plant I trimmed under cat (9)
 18 Old poet writes boring pulpit speech, needing day off (7)
 20 Corresponding beyond the boundary (2,5) **IN TOUCH**
 21 Eastwood School closed, limiting unsafe staph in seconds (5)
 22 Scan ticker (5)
CLOCK
CHECK