Across
1 Returned with a record batch of orders to be dealt with? (7)
5 Some thousand held captive in battle (5)
8 Maybe Carmen's dating the choreographer? (7,6)
9 No longer lie about being an outcast (5)
10 Beg for an adjustment in net rate (7)
11 It becomes more within (6)
12 Still good advice to the excited (6)
15 Hero-worshipper (7)
17 Achieve a rise by personal effort? (5)
19 Feeling brought on by beastly strong drink? (6,7)
20 After considering (5)
21 Fundamental shifting in cargo (7)

Down
1 Move or shoot upwards for example (5)
2 Reward of mature reflection (13)
3 In new roles it makes no attempt to hurry (7)
4 Cracked jokes, although bound not to speak (6)
5 Clever way to market (5)
6 Characteristically calculating type (13)
7 Impressive slip (7)
11 Going after a dog, they take the lead (7)
13 The art of eating out (7)
14 Near in France to get to quickly (6)
16 A number fire from stem to stern - duck! (5)
18 Order cabs about one - it's essential (5)

Cryptic Crossword 16610

Cryptic Solution 16609

Across: 1 Rails, 8 Cashmere, 9 Stand, 10 Pretoria, 11 Adult, 12 Sol, 16 Struck, 17 Averse, 18 Yaw, 23 Treat, 24 Seashore, 25 Smash, 26 Duellist, 27 Inane.

Down: 2 Antidote, 3 Linoleum, 4 Hairdo, 5 Chute, 6 Beard, 7 Regal, 12 Sky, 13 Law, 14 Ferryman, 15 Assassin, 19 Arrest, 20 Aside, 21 Hater, 22 Chile.
Across:
1 Erudite person (7)
5 Finnish steam bath (5)
8 Switchback railway (6,7)
9 Sphere of conflict (5)
10 Series of boat races (7)
11 In comparison with (6)
12 Of one's own accord (6)
15 To quiver (7)
17 Underlying meaning (5)
19 Film (6,7)
20 Boldness (5)
21 To ease (7)

Down:
1 Country of west Asia (5)
2 In disorderly haste (6-7)
3 Away from the wind (7)
4 Register (6)
5 Colloquial vocabulary (5)
6 Very latest (2-2-3-6)
7 Previously (7)
11 Road-surfacing material (7)
13 Fundamental (7)
14 To moderate (6)
16 Penniless (5)
18 At that point (5)

Across: 1 Stork, 8 In common, 9 Found, 10 Lie doggo, 11 Faith, 12 Pen, 16 Demure, 17 Apogee, 18 Peg, 23 While, 24 One-sided, 25 Robot, 26 By design, 27 Shred.
Down: 2 Two-faced, 3 Ring true, 4 In time, 5 Moody, 6 Image, 7 Envoy, 12 Pep, 13 Nag, 14 Pooh-pooh, 15 Well done, 19 Emerge, 20 Booby, 21 Heady, 22 Kiosk.
For online tips go to sudoku.com

This is the world’s most addictive numbers game. The aim is to fill the grid so that every column, every row and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 to 9. You need to reason out where to place the missing numbers by using the numbers given in the grid and a process of elimination. This is a game of logic not mathematical ability.

Yesterday’s solution:

Using the letter L somewhere in every word, can you make at least 74 words of four letters or more out of these letters? At least one word will have all the letters. No proper names.

Yesterday’s answers: acne, agency, anger, cane, cang, canner, cannery, canny, carney, cran, crane, cranny, cyan, earn, gean, granny, nacre, nancy, nape, nary, neap, near, pane, pang, panne, pean, pecan, penny, pern, prance, prang, PREGNANCY, rang, range, rangy, yang, yarn, yearn
EACH number in our Code-Cracker grid represents a different letter of the alphabet. For example, today 25 represents D so fill in D every time the figure 25 appears. You have two letters in the control grid to start you off. Enter them in the appropriate squares in the main grid, then use your knowledge of words to work out which letters should go in the missing squares. As you get the letters, fill in other squares with the same number in the main grid and control grid. Check off the list of alphabetical letters as you identify them.