



Across

- 1 The mood is good in French church (8) ambience (Mood - AM (is) BIEN ('good' in French) + CE (Church of England))
- 5 Old boy dead from squashed ball (6) oblate (Squashed ball (shape) - OB (old boy) + LATE (dead))
- 10 Hold support back in time (7) harbour (Hold - reversal (back) of BRA (support) in HOUR (time))
- 11 It's not on the record "Tommy" (7) private (Double definition - Not on the record / Tommy is an army private)
- 12 Toe sprain not to be mended by skill cannot be broken apart (14) inseparability (Cannot be broken apart - (TOE SPRAIN)* (without 'to', anagram="be mended") + ABILITY (skill))
- 14 No time for a lie to bother expert (10) aficionado (Expert - A FIC(t)ION (no 't' in "a lie") + ADO (bother))
- 15 I'm quiet on the net (4) mesh (Net - ME (I'm) + SH (quiet))
- 17 Writing even more in the afternoon (4) poem (Writing - (m)O(r)E (even letters of the word) inside PM (afternoon))
- 19 Young bittern retiring soon? (4,6) baby boomer (Retiring soon (born 1946-1964) - BABY (young) + BOOMER (bittern bird))
- 21 Unnatural desires? Mum's the word (7,7) Oedipus complex ('Unnatural desires' relating to the mother)
- 24 Race around hill in Dungeness, say (7) reactor (Dungeness (reactor) - RACE* (anagram="around") + TOR (hill))
- 25 Understands Eskimos take time (7) intuitions (Understands - INUITS (Eskimos) around T (time))
- 26 Tries to find people from Cape Town by radio (6) essays (Tries - homophone (by radio) of SA's (South Africans, from Cape Town))
- 27 See-through clothing reveals genie leg (8) negligee (See-through clothing - [GENIE LEG]* (anagram="reveals"))

Down

- 1 Throw pale (4) ashy (Pale - A SHY (a throw))
- 2 Rwandan neighbour to ruin dub mix (7) Burundi (Rwandan neighbour - (RUIN DUB)* (anagram="mix"))
- 3 Vacant expressions and erotic dancing - if you know, you know (8) esoteric (Known by only a few - E[xpression]S (vacant word) + EROTIC* (anagram="dancing"))
- 4 Openings for stage-hands (7,7) curtain raisers (Double definition)
- 6 Belgian kid regularly making pancake (5) blini (Pancake - Every other letter (regularly) of B[e]L[g]I[a]N [k]I[d])
- 7 Greed of gardener heard taking the grain (7) avarice (Greed - AVA (Gardner - homophone "heard" of Gardener) + RICE (grain))
- 8 So she is amongst us, at the end of time, throughout (10) everywhere (Throughout - VERY (so) + HER (she) inside WE (us) after (tim)E (end of the word))
- 9 Vertically challenged? Boil me and I'll climb the ladder (8,6) upwardly mobile (One who will climb the ladder - UPWARD (vertically) + [BOIL ME])* (anagram="challenged"))
- 13 Protective layer of soup? (4,6) damp course (Protective layer, and cryptic definition of soup)
- 16 Place for sick shoal swimming around pit (8) hospital (Place for sick - SHOAL* (anagram="swimming") around PIT)
- 18 Stop roads meeting on the short side (7) endways (On the short side - END (stop) + WAYS (roads))
- 20 Encounter to get me in trouble (7) meeting (Encounter - [GET ME IN]* (anagram="trouble"))
- 22 Short husband hides in shame (5) pithy (Short - H (husband) inside (hides in) PITY (shame))
- 23 Man in Paisley (4) isle (Isle (e.g. of Man) - in [pa]ISLE[y])