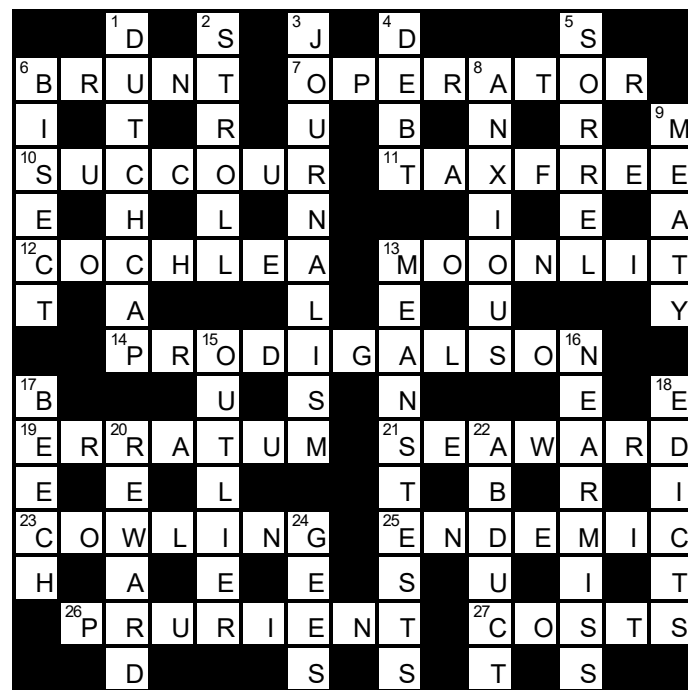




Across

- 6 Black centre-back's force (5) brunt (Force - BURNT (black) with "centre" letter moved "back" one space)
- 7 Arranger of musical to tour last (8) operator (Arranger - OPERA (musical) + TO + [tou]R ("last" letter))
- 10 Polish keeping benefits support (7) succour (Support - SCOUR (polish) around ("keeping") UC (benefits, universal credit))
- 11 Try to release from duty (3-4) tax-free (Release from duty - TAX (try) + FREE (release) ("release" doing double duty))
- 12 A cloche makes part for pick-up (7) cochlea (Part for 'pick-up' (hearing) - A CLOCHE* (anagram="makes"))
- 13 Low on new books with romantic atmosphere (7) moonlit (Romantic atmosphere - MOO (low, sound made by a cow) + N (new) + LIT (literature/books))
- 14 Story of 'Redemption Song' liar podcast (8,3) prodigal son (Story of redemption - SONG LIAR POD* (anagram="cast"))
- 19 Maturer by mistake (7) erratum (Mistake - MATURER* (anagram="mistake") ("mistake" doing double duty))
- 21 Facing the main drawback after drink (7) seaward (Facing the main (=sea) - Reversal ("back") of DRAW after SEA (drink))
- 23 Cover for a calf? (7) cowling (Cover - wordplay for young cow/calf)
- 25 Native abused medicine without me (7) endemic (Native - MEDICINE* (anagram="abused") without the I (me))
- 26 Sex-mad pet? I run right off (8) prurient (Sex-mad - PET I RUN R* (anagram="off"))
- 27 Comes to function on the way back (5) costs (Comes to - COS (cosine/function) on reversal ("back") of ST (street/way))

Down

- 1 Germany catch up with corruption to cover for European head (5,3) Dutch cap (Cover for European head - D (Germany) + CATCH UP* (anagram="with corruption"))
- 2 Be inflammatory after short walk (6) stroll (Walk - TROLL (be inflammatory) after S (short))

3 Reporting broken urinals in outer Jericho Metro (10)	journalism (Reporting - URINALS* (anagram="broken") inside J[erich]O (outer parts of the word) + M (Metro))
4 Account for time underneath young woman (4)	debt (Account - T (time) under DEB (young woman))
5 Salad leaves advisor relatively content (6)	sorrel (Salad leaves - content of [advi]SOR REL[atively])
6 Split bit over bit (6)	bisect (Split - BIT around ("over") SEC (second/bit of time))
8 10 to 10, in a hole, on edge (7)	anxious (On edge - X (ten) + IO (ten) in ANUS (a hole))
9 Setter's over-consume stout (5)	meaty (Stout - MY (setter's) around EAT (consume))
13 Intends street to form return of financial assessments (5,5)	means tests (Financial assessments - MEANS (intends) + reversal of ST(street) + SET(school form))
15 One on the edge of dead and in bed (7)	outlier (One on the edge - OUT (dead) + LIER (in bed))
16 Work seminars, almost a hit (4,4)	near miss (Almost a hit - SEMINARS* (anagram="work"))
17 Djembe echoed through the wood (5)	beech (Wood - hidden word ("through") [djem]BE ECH[oed])
18 Orders to enter document into contract then sign initials (6)	edicts (Orders - "initial" letters of E[nter] D[ocument] I[nto] C[ontract] T[hen] S[ign])
20 Pencil turned for pay (6)	reward (Pay - Reversal of DRAWER (pencil))
22 Seize the day in Cuba, backing ultimate communist (6)	abduct (Seize - D (day) inside reversal ("backing") of CUBA + [communis]T ("ultimate" letter))
24 Encourages thousands (4)	gees (Encourages - homophone of G's (thousands))