**Speedy crossword No. 1,446**

Across
1 Basin for washing the nether regions (5)
4 Smart alec – mafioso (4,3)
8 Serious fall from grace (6,3)
9 Impudence (3)
10 Cut – bargain (4)
11 Seat of government in Holland (3,5)
13 Bribe paid to ensure silence (4,5)
17 Bitter alkaloid in drinks which has a stimulant effect (8)
19 Ski lift (1-3)
21 Means to propel a boat (3)
22 Hunch (9)
23 Smiled smugly (7)
24 Brutish creature invented by Jonathan Swift (5)

Down
1 Puzzle (6)
2 Muslim ascetic known for frenzied dancing (7)
3 Kind of jazz harking back to its New Orleans origins (4)
4 Premier League club (4,3,6)
5 Natural light and heat (8)
6 Soviet prison camp (5)
7 That’s wonderful! (6)
12 * (8)
14 Behaving like a hooligan (7)
15 Opposite of ‘down’? (6)
16 Insectivorous bird – fool down under (6)
18 Italian, Nobel-winning physicist, d. 1954 (5)
20 Crafty (4)

Solution No. 1,445

S T E P P E P I C L E
E R I R O A
S Q U E E G E E G U T S
U S H C I T
K I S S T H I R T E E N
L T S O
A C H I E V E M E N T
E U R Y
S E A F A R E R G A P E
R L A A O H
Y A L E S L I P S H O D
T S I S U O
J O S H U A E R M I N E