Across
1 Moody agent met retreating American soldiers with thanks and left (13)
8 A story about case of mademoiselle? (6)
9 Weapon is initially rented to holy man first (8)
10 Garment queen dropped in vault (4)
11 An unsuccessful attempt to begin generating stale farts (5,5)
13 Islands in a ring (5)
14 Intend to go around ship with French man, a sailor who works in the galley (7)
16 Stumbles in underwear with drink (5,2)
18 Off to one side, like London gardens? (5)
20 In favour of equine taking on a hound regularly in a top racing class (7,3)
22 Drugs reportedly bring comfort (4)
23 Sea legs developing, crossing river - it's a gift (8)
25 While I travel, dropping ecstasy with author (6)
26 Right when dude shifts around 50kg (13)

Down
1 Politician, high-class Republican, tucking into meal, a Japanese dish (7)
2 Malachi, a rugby player, is married in a confusion of words (11)
3 Still Autumn's sunsets (9)
4 Son of David in criminal mob, alas (7)
5 Cream caramel - I tested a portion (5)
6 Article is one of two not taking sides (3)
7 To learn at sea after some time (5,2)
12 Setting the tempo, as house conductors might be? (11)
15 Short story, by officer, Catch-22, perhaps? (9)
16 Most unusual, a church organ (7)
17 For top team to be announced, carry on (7)
19 Washington to cry "failure!" (7)
21 Misfit exhibitionist removing top before long? On the contrary (5)
24 Assassin to pull a grotesque face dropping King (3)