

set by

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Six clues lack a common definition.

They are easy to spot
because they are asterisked (*).
This definition – being there for no
particular reason (and not related to
today's event) – is given by two other clues.

ACROSS

- 1 One producing music online? (6)
- 5 *Vehicle needs petrol (not gas) (8)
- 9 *Low part of Ireland (4,4)
- **10** It's hidden by rodent in hole (6)
- 11 *Apple 'n' pear cocktail (5,5)
- 12 *Some extra information needed (4)
- 13 Very nearly likes to embrace the Almighty, filled with love (2,4,2)
- **16** Remains where, reportedly, dead souls are carried away (6)
- 17 The Mob taking part in vendetta if family's rejected (6)
- 19 *Head of maths constructed triangles with no sides (4,4)
- 21 Former England striker losing credit that hurts! (4)
- 22 Plaything I suck deliriously wearing condom briefly (6,4)
- **25** ... for example, Times? (6)
- **26** See 24 Down
- 27 Oh dear! Promise kept by car lobby (8)
- **28** South of France good for everyone? It's all about getting the numbers right (6)

DOWN

- 2 Return of a tennis stroke source of enormous complaint (5)
- 3 Man at the door discovered a big cat (5)
- **4** Fallen actor finds way to win Oscar, heading for the top (7)
- 5 Have a close look at oil painting that's apparently dripping (7)
- **6** R-rough Australians, 14? (7)
- 7 Meat Loaf originally the fourth band touring West after East (9)
- **8** Onset of pain in heart after lifting hip, a critical one (9)
- 14 Very entertaining American music mag's written about both rubbish and classy pop stars (6,3)
- 15 Change of heart if BBC4 is this at 6pm (3,3,3)
- **18** Dope and high-quality heroin found in study (7)
- 19 Member of 17 has crustacean's head magnified by a factor of 20 (7)
- **20** Soldiers will secure large deer's put back in chains (7)
- 23 Uncertain beginners in Crosswordland usually let Dalibor explain what the solutions are (5)
- **24/26** *Doctor let Sue Barker out of hospital (5,3,5)

A blog of the crossword will be available on Fifteensquared, today, 26 October (from 11pm)

There is also an interactive version of this puzzle, visit: www.crossword.info/S_and_B