

MPP - 016 by Radler

The wordplay omits one particular letter whenever it occurs in the solution; the affected clues are asterisked. Solve the crossword and answer the question (in relation to the grid only) posed by the answers to 1, 5, 11, 13

Across

- 1 Where one hints cryptically? (2,4)
- 5 *Having *joie de vivre au contraire*, the French paradox (6)
- 11 Staff following method acquiring quality ultimately as well as quantity (3,4)
- 12 Person swearing behind you on phone right next to Her Majesty (7)
- 13 *Letters from Alfred Smith (4)
- 15 Singers tear black dress dancing (10)
- 17 *Trendy new area has outlet spreading disease (9)
- 18 Italian taking role of novice in Elia's verses (5)

- 20 X-rated prior to cuts (5)
- 21 *Militant political students excluded from participation in plucky performance (9)
- 23 Non-classroom activities and disciplines to incorporate drug experience (5,5)
- 24 *G-gosh! (4)
- 26 Occurrences of one cold length during freezes? (7)
- 27 Spooner's come a cropper, can use this to improve stability? (4,3)

- 29 *Take turns to proceed, yours truly then Sally (6)
- 30 *Greek letter followed by a dash (6)

Down

- 2 Currently without work? (3)
- 3 Exhibition of theatrical passion (4)
- 4 Oil supplier obeys an order (3,4)
- 6 General broken sun covering Spain: still no start to autumn (10)
- 7 *Memos argue for

redistribution in economic theory with no overall benefit (4-3,4)

- 8 Urge primarily constrained by desire for money (5)
- 9 *Fly around high, casually flying through the air (8)
- 10 *Namibia expels revolutionary in creating African state (6)
- 14 Fed up and gloomy from loss of honour (11)

16 Cut short journey to meet drinkers stuffing herb in Mexican food (10)

- 19 *Sleeping with nothing on, taken aback by whistle (8)
- 21 Study through employment (6)
- 22 *International match ended silence (3,2,2)
- 23 *Bad hair day (5)
- 25 *Uncertainty about life (4)
- 28 *Iron hat (3)

