

SUNDAY No 24 - WORLD PUZZLE by PETO

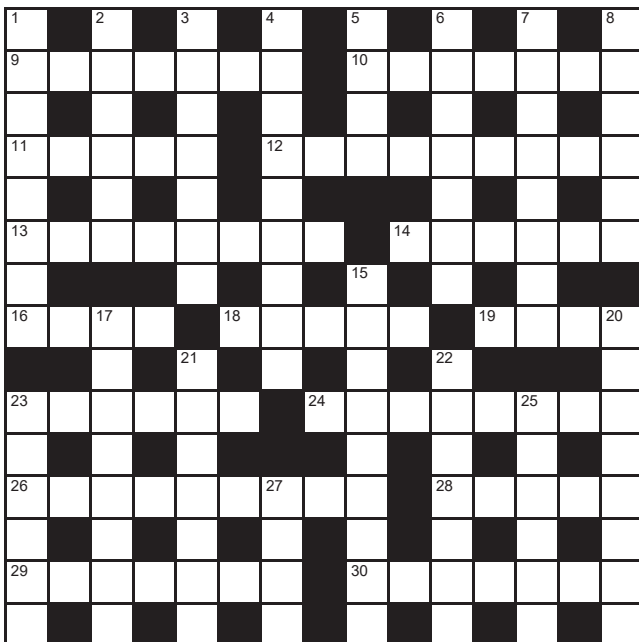
A cryptic puzzle themed on one particular country. The name of the country should be inserted at 23 across. Work out the name of the country by solving the *asterisked clues, all undefined. Their solutions have some relevance to the country, such as its places, famous people, culture and language

ACROSS

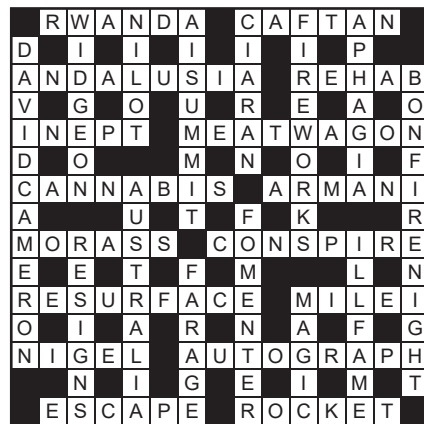
- 9** * Nerve agent ingested by volunteers (7)
10 * Head of variety into country rock primarily (7)
11 * Animal eating fish eggs for the most part (5)
12 * Oddly neglected mark on part of horse's foot (9)
13 * Decline within a month (8)
14 * Let off steam largely about TV company (6)
16 * Slander retracted with first of apologies (4)
18 * Left a number to be sent back (5)
19 * Live with artist in retreat (4)
23 [See Notes] (6)
24/26 * Tallish actress with bad review (2,6,9)
26 See 24
28 * Right after repeated thanks (5)
29 * Displayed during August in Overton-on-Dee (7)
30 * Wrong to pinch gold? Certainly (7)

DOWN

- 1** Leading performer accepting work on earliest of plays by Dutch dramatist (8)
2 Deplorable to embrace most of gang as worthy of reverence (6)
3 Piece by party member originally from Spain say (7)
4 Satirist's funny poem on stopping the French Revolution at the start (9)
5 Regularly takes exercise with son (4)
6 Thwarted wicked spirit stopped knight leaving (7)
7 Vanish with girl before the last chaotic seance (8)
8 The king close to fury after president's expression of surprise (6)
15 Unhappy with dress from behind — Henry not so much (9)
17 Assert wrongly as sea mist disperses over time (8)
20 What Viola became after a break? (8)
21 Worker with burning sensation caused by stinging insect (4,3)
22 Grazing land beyond river (7)
23 Make good soldiers join rebellion (6)
25 Cool and appropriate for a body of pupils new to a school (6)
27 Enthusiastic praise for Hardy? Not at first (4)



Solution No 23



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