

ACROSS

- 7 Italian cereal? It's a sign! (9)
 8 In Skegness, a long-time beautician's place (5)
 10 When gems are about it causes a stir (8)
 11 Seated, fidgeting, though calm (6)
 12 Change poor diet (4)
 13 Education means fifty with a job? (8)
 15 One's childhood in one's imagination (7)
 17 Suggested that the little devil told tales (7)
 20 Sapper likely to be dependable (8)
 22 Get rid of some biased umpires (4)
 25 Contribute and get on in time (6)
 26 Show skill with helicopter, for example (8)
 27 Existing – millions in province (5)
 28 Means test reformed for politicians (9)

DOWN

- 1 Boat empty round back of rigging (5)
 2 Gave an address to read out (6)
 3 Very happy, still, getting behind the European Community (8)
 4 Girl set about finding tough meat (7)
 5 Laird can strangely become an important clergyman (8)
 6 Against an offer for the rival (9)
 9 Part of the Burma-Siam land-mass (4)
 14 Wrapped up in unusually deep novel (9)
 16 Good-natured French friend with steel rope (8)
 18 Way to assess is not extreme (8)
 19 Fine way to get a goal (7)
 21 Meat or grouse? (4)
 23 Ill-humoured doctor given a flower (6)
 24 Frequently expressed as a decimal (5)

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