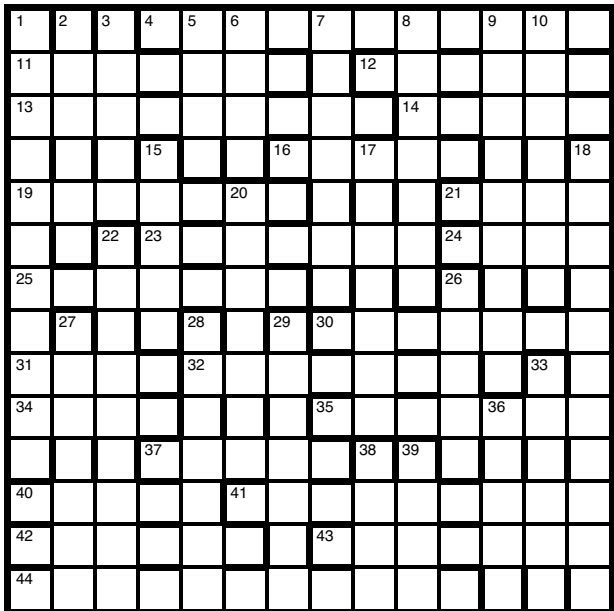


## 2664:

### First name terms

by Doc

The unclued lights, two of which accommodate two theme words, can be sorted into four trios of related words, each forming a reducing chain of 6, 5 and 4 letters.



#### Across

- 11 Disentangle one French composer (7)
- 14 Department having some bargain dresses (5)
- 16 Annoying children – crazy right through (5)
- 19 Surfer returned French hooter at 1.10 (7)
- 21 Something penned by Lehar, I assume? (4)
- 23 A US politician entering top educational surroundings (7)
- 25 Old sovereign's glittering fishes (7)
- 30 Severe criticisms of VAT, say (7)
- 32 Road to nowhere (4,3)
- 35 Still moving about on climbing frames (7)
- 37 Black market trader's location (5)
- 40 Such idle eaters' sports car (5)
- 41 Graham and Sheena each turned back losing one or two letters for Indian princess (9)
- 43 Transport in Lisbon melting tarmac by river (7)
- 44 Former England wicket-keeper's dog (4,7)

#### Down

- 1 PSV employees go round one headland for entrepreneurs (11)
- 2 Was sound asleep? (6)
- 3 German artist, severe when cycling (5)

- 5 Round loo upset at Test ground (4)
- 6 Content of someone's temporary home (4)
- 7 King at dance, losing weight (7)
- 8 One going in lower, not both (7)
- 9 Vieux? (3,6)
- 10 Planet's epigrammist (7)
- 17 A couple of French felled tree gauge (7)
- 18 Relations with 50% of ward staff? (4-7)
- 20 Keen to win set pieces (7)
- 22 Snapshot catches an island in it – showing key technique (9)
- 26 Lady Macbeth's initial outburst passionately portrayed (5)
- 27 Hanging basket on Venetian canals (7)
- 28 Counsellor, regularly paid, avoids worry (7)
- 29 Shell structure (7)
- 38 Price of passage is not bad, we hear (4)
- 39 Taylor – a late inclusion for Test (4)

A first prize of £30 and two runners-up prizes of £20 for the first correct solutions opened on 12 August. Please scan or photograph entries and email them (including the crossword number in the subject field) to [crosswords@spectator.co.uk](mailto:crosswords@spectator.co.uk), or post to: Crossword 2664, The Spectator, 22 Old Queen Street, London SW1H 9HP. Please allow six weeks for prize delivery. The dictionary prize is not available at present.

Name .....

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