

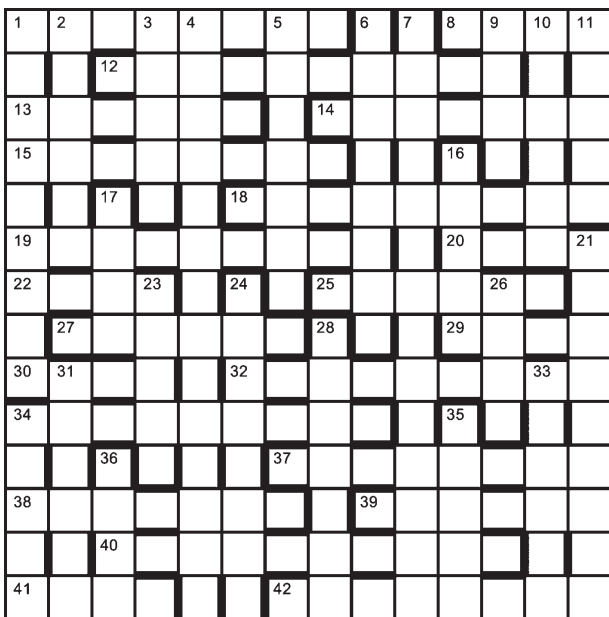
Crossword

2663:

CTRL+SHIFT+S

by CheeseCracker

The ten unclued lights comprise five pairs, as implied by the title. Elsewhere, ignore one apostrophe.



Across

- 1 Leaves evening party, returning by church (8)
- 12 Rag Conservative, reluctant after defeat (10)
- 13 Sad rake unpleasant with no love in sight (6)
- 15 Nice No. 1's changed, according to singers? (8)
- 18 Where the result of perks may be enjoyed (6,3)
- 19 Calais etc unexpectedly austere (9)
- 25 Maori dance twice caught cycling shorts (6)
- 27 Footballers clutching tight back ligaments (6)
- 29 Ditch possible outcome of amusing quip (2-2)
- 30 Yvette, now and then one chilly sort? (4)
- 32 Resorts across Channel sent back nationals (9)
- 34 Elbow hit with a bat is weakened (2,1,3,3)
- 37 Hiding nothing, ecclesiastical court and Catholicism show pattern of feelings (8)
- 38 Our Lady inspiring disciple's work in stone (7)
- 39 Covered with shrub, black and wide (6)
- 40 He repeatedly passed around mug (6-4)
- 42 WW2 commandos placed rearward stopping most of staff retreating (8)

- 3 Delicate element of self-indulgence (5)
- 4 Imminent order – truncheon deployed (5,3,6)
- 5 River I associate with Wellington? (7)
- 6 Dirty paving stone that's found on clean beaches (4,4)
- 7 Panned NHS for derelict wards? (6-8)
- 9 King I see with bishop (4)
- 10 Decree tree should stand on island (6)
- 11 Duck Princess heard (5)
- 16 Violently eject Shakespearean character (5)
- 17 Expert rosarian's top maple (4)
- 21 Old spectacles, maybe round, worn by girl, OK (5,4)
- 24 Met article turned aside when head of Vice retires (8)
- 28 Infantile blunder involving adult past (7)
- 31 Extremely earnest male checks intermittently cut mains gas (6)

- 34 Democrat blocking violent dictator's government (5)
- 36 Bones well raised on both sides of scapula (4)

A first prize of £30 and two runners-up prizes of £20 for the first correct solutions opened on 5 August. Please scan or photograph entries and email them (including the crossword number in the subject field) to crosswords@spectator.co.uk, or post to: Crossword 2663, The Spectator, 22 Old Queen Street, London SW1H 9HP. Please allow six weeks for prize delivery.

Name

Address

Down

- 1 Admin personnel in firm create unknown effect on TV (9)