Crossword 2671: Canned madras by Pabulum

Nine unclued lights (including two of three words and three of two with one in short form, ignore an apostrophe) have been seen on 35. A clued light gives a further example also in short form and must be shaded. Elsewhere, ignore an accent.

Across

- 1 Stupid gents boy cleaned out (5)
- 10 Queen and peer she'd seduced, knight stops and berates (10)
- 11 Plaster over wounds starts to come off (6)
- 12 Trees the French philosopher hugs (7)
- 14 Senior soldier adult axed dead in Morse? (5)
- 15 Geordie washes down muddy Sandy without a bit of soap (5)
- 16 King gripped by incredible film star (6)
- 22 Indispensable, I left Bogotá in trouble (8)
- 23 Holy book new rector gave Di (7)
- 24 Frenchman very OK on the outside (4)
- 25 Come now and drink with HMRC's man (2,2)
- 32 Reptiles into devouring a torso? (6)
- 34 Less sensible director sacked later (5)
- 36 Singer set off hounds (7)
- 37 Feast I seethed about includes crustless pie (6)
- 38 Brit ultimately gave Asian queen a new dog (10)
- 40 Chap cupboards not one hairnet (5)

Down

2 Music festival old contralto mounts (5)

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- 4 Soldiers in HQ got up and were off (7)
- 5 Chairmen may do this stuff in bedrooms (10)
- 6 Soon I'd a lyre to play (7)
- 7 Triumphant times vet dies in (1-4)
- 8 Glorifying old archbishop (absolute conservative) (9)
- 9 Virginia's sauce succeeded with turkey (4)
- Bearing right Roo's pal set off (7)
- 15 Idler leather splitter (6)
- 17 Jack strolls miles away each noon in the year (4,6)
- 18 Good wine fuels defender(7)
- 20 Nye now has feet up the whole evening ... (9)
- 21 ... needing a more substantial job (6)
- 28 Angles are Germans plumbing deep ravines (7)
- 31 Sweeper maybe someone tackles (5)
- 33 Stumpy character keeps batting (5)
- 34 Father of quartet (4)

A first prize of £30 and two runners-up prizes of £20 for the first correct solutions opened on 30 September. 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 2671, The Spectator, 22 Old Queen Street, London SW1H 9HP. Please allow six weeks for prize delivery.

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