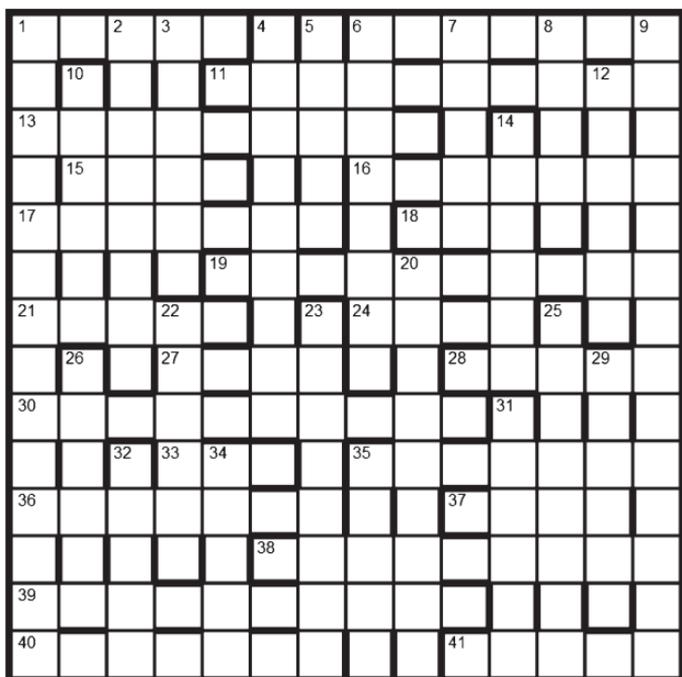


2695:

Struck hard

by *Pabulum*

A word can be prefixed by six unclued lights so as to form new words (including two place names). 9D is a pertinent piece of poetry (five words). Solvers must shade the appropriate unclued light.



Across

- 1 Pepper makes host back off (5)
- 6 Butterfly and weathercock fool about (7)
- 11 Small fly buzzing round yellow plant (10)
- 13 With head of arrow no good, perhaps 75-year old is returning missile (9)
- 15 Paint waterfall about noon (4)
- 16 Prosecutor up to fitting cubic blocks (7)
- 17 Film star Richard talked of secluded retreat for antelope (7)
- 18 Fish? Some stay underwater (3)
- 19 Least podgy society banker, say, is in Paris (10)
- 21 In Nebraska 007 is Bond (5)
- 27 Lass missing fellow in Scottish island (4)
- 28 Lighting company producing huge warship (5)
- 30 Smitten admirer, one a lot different wearing frock (10)
- 33 Earnest wish of housewife Romeo dumped (3)
- 35 Quiet girl beside river (7)
- 36 Unfinished souvenir painted white (7)
- 38 Sea snubbed, tais rue swimming in creeks (9)
- 39 Clothes coming off set a priest shivering (10)
- 40 Dull church starts to engender sad marriages (7)

Down

- 1 Heresy Islam crushed involves Lilliputian son ousting god (14)
- 2 Musician playing pibroch not softly with grandchild (8)
- 4 Stout Homer pulled up fast (9)
- 6 Letters from Molotov endangered grape harvest (8)
- 7 Coastal state accepts occasional seabird (5)
- 8 Chinese pride? In communism primarily (5)
- 10 Short jacket in trunk with short jumper (6)
- 12 Evict nun wayward and shocking (6)
- 14 Sound Indian bean plants bearing fruit (6)
- 20 Cheap hotel parties get drunk husband gated (9)
- 23 Pets being borne by chariots (8)
- 25 Song sung when drinking port (8)
- 26 Law broken by theologian, first to immew snowbird? (6)
- 29 Swiss beak hearing avocat first (6)

- 31 Chap beheaded by waggish nihilist (6)
- 32 Rising golfer putting out in public (5)
- 34 Upset high priest, low in vitality (5)
- 35 Nick was a candidate before (5)

A first prize of a £30 John Lewis voucher and two runners-up prizes of £20 vouchers for the first correct solutions opened on 7 April. 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 2695, The Spectator, 22 Old Queen Street, London SW1H 9HP. Please allow six weeks for prize delivery.

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