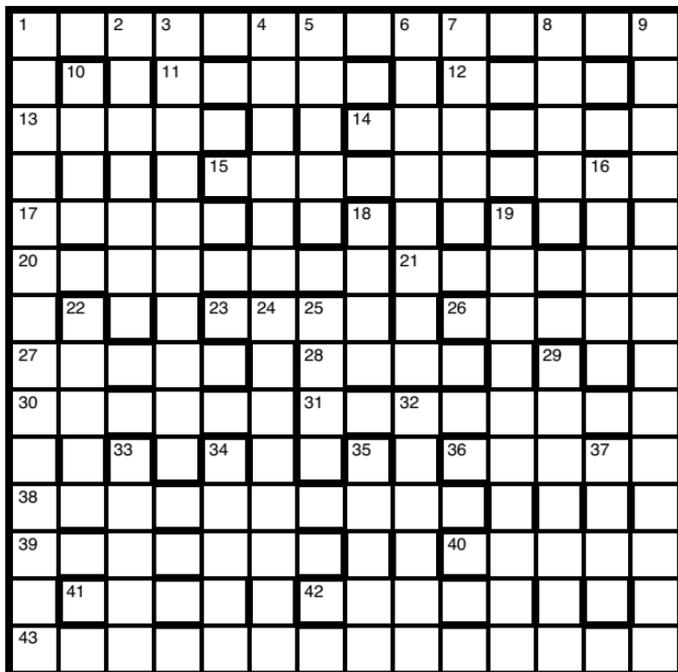


Crossword

2540: Recycling components

by CheeseCracker

Eight unclued lights, arranged symmetrically, comprise two quartets, one of which makes the other go round.



Across

- 1 How much poor Matthew has aged (14, three words)
- 11 What's got blowers regularly engaged? (5)
- 13 Cheeky make-up (5)
- 14 Nothing fresh about first social reformer (7)
- 15 Some change local larder outside flat (10)
- 17 Blame husband for going in basin (5)
- 21 View rascal across floor (6, two words)
- 23 Partner works both ways (4)
- 26 Brown primates hold one back (5)
- 27 Clean up exposed broken bones (5)
- 28 Stone set in epoxy not backed (4)
- 30 Encouragement to prima donna, a lady (6)
- 36 Place of beauty offering relief and ecstasy (5)
- 38 Offal vendors trash wide sign (10, hyphenated)
- 39 Former international clasped by infatuated spinster (7, two words)
- 40 Frail mobile having threads (5)
- 42 Small bit of self-indulgence (5)
- 43 Changing plea, the French getting English money once (14, hyphenated)

Down

- 1 Source admitting spy reasoned soundly (14, hyphenated)
- 2 Stop pursuing snake that's found on road (7)
- 3 Prepare veg in a tin pot, dal being boiled (10, three words)

- 4 Sword fashioned with nothing dropped (6)
- 5 Serious screen villain (5)
- 7 Expert oddly picked out Andrew on exercises (5)
- 8 Flying, cutting south when lost (5, hyphenated)
- 9 Untutored rank exalted greener reforms (8,6)
- 16 Singers hot, wearing stiff fibre (5)
- 18 Soon clergymen will be defrocked (4)
- 19 Point about no-good German poet that's left to conform (10, three words)
- 22 Can begin to rally after loud defeat (5)
- 25 Internees in exchange from the south (4)
- 29 Holy men unexpectedly spotted Ray? (7)
- 32 Intermittently steered away to initiate proceedings (6, two words)
- 33 Fume over finishing after new marriage vow (5)
- 34 Edmund's torch held by homesteaders (5)
- 35 Tiny animals upset when an adult goes astray (5)

A first prize of £30 for the first correct solution opened on 14 February. There are two runners-up prizes of £20. Please scan or photograph entries and email them (including the crossword number in the subject field) to crosswords@spectator.co.uk — the dictionary prize is not available. We will accept postal entries again at some point.

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