

Crossword

2541: Beastly

by Doc

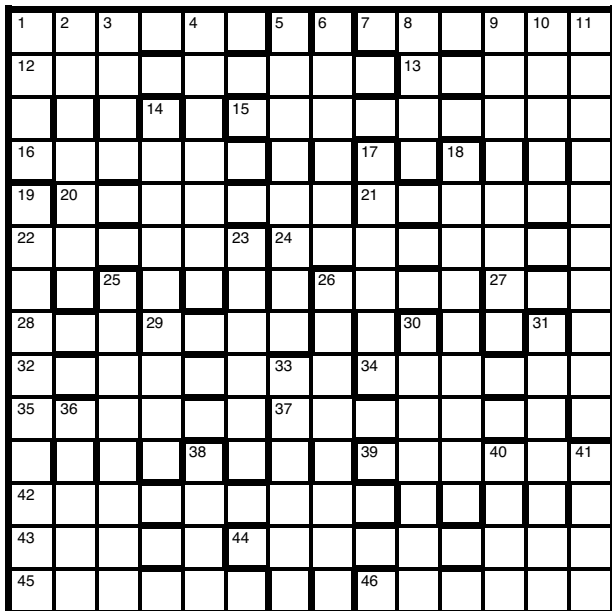
The unclued lights are to be resolved into four (unrelated, non-thematic) phrases which share a common format.

Across

- 12 Pope, maybe, as thespian turning in late in France (9, two words)
- 13 Pound fine imposed on Bill Stevenson (5)
- 15 Reserve WC in polar areas (9)
- 20 Cosseted artist in recording was dominant (7)
- 24 Alastair organised white-collar workers (8)
- 26 Key worker's jargon (4)
- 27 Sash Holbein regularly displayed (3)
- 28 Either way, one in order (3)
- 29 Resistance units – I see thousands (4)
- 32 Collier's outer garment covers vestment that's old (8, two words)
- 34 Bull and steer on left (6)
- 37 Agreement by smart lad returning green pottery (7)
- 42 Assistance for the poor, extravagant, willingly given (9)
- 43 Speak badly of topless dress (5)
- 44 Disciplined approach gets white rock broken (9, two words)

Down

- 1 Start of the alphabet spells 'skunk' (4)
- 2 Wild cats left out in capital (7)
- 3 Cold butter and jam (4)
- 4 Mr Toad's prepared for fame (7)
- 5 Fate of City game, about 1 (8)
- 6 Ms Blethyn, Vera actress, last seen in bar, drunk (6)



- 8 Irish house cleaner finished early (4)
- 9 Reference to a tyro – soul in anguish (8)
- 10 Medium river not quite so long (5)
- 11 Take right away? (10)
- 14 One's parents ached awfully first – with these ailments (9, two words)
- 18 Game bird not all on mountain top (9)
- 19 Technocrat ordered heavy garment (10, two words)
- 25 City girl turning up, breaking down (8)
- 26 Party providers ruined terraces (8)
- 30 Light shoe for team coach (7)
- 31 Money, having lots of it, but not hard at heart (7)
- 36 Eye specialist loses way in Windows (5)
- 38 Hawaiian goose on East Anglian river (4)
- 40 Heathens oddly reveal composer born in 2 (4)
- 41 Indian chauffeur in classic Edsel (4)

A first prize of £30 for the first correct solution opened on 21 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. *Apologies that there may be a delay in sending out prizes at present.*

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