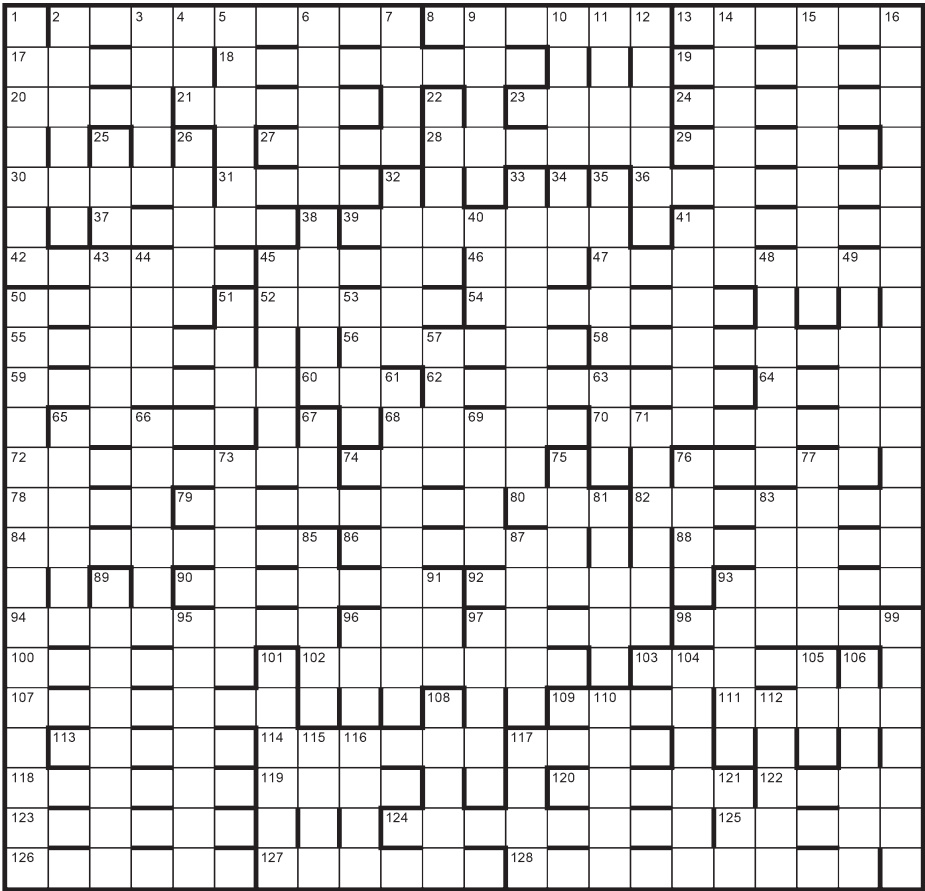


Christmas Crossword

Dectet by Pabulum

Ten pairs of unclued lights give the names of people whose 89 was '50D/2A' (six words in total). They include one 37, two singers, a prolific 34, a colourful writer, an outré TV star, an expert at '16/6/38' (six words in total), a film producer, a mathematician who also watched '128/103/10' (five words in total) and a 93A/79. Elsewhere, ignore two accents. Thirty-three special clues include a definition and a hidden letter mixture of the light.

- Across**
- 8 Trap ex-con swivelling musket (6)
  - 17 Old region in isle one visits (5)
  - 18 Mind minor rash (8)
  - 19 Last of stingrays he-men rashly net (6)
  - 20 Nail bad rogue (4)
  - 21 Crane chewed shellfish (5)
  - 23 One bosky wood (4)
  - 24 Look round very fast (6)
  - 27 Secure tenant's flat (4)
  - 28 Clementine's home some know about (6)
  - 29 Vulgar bloke swallows tablet (5)
  - 30 Godless fellow mouths woman's name (5)
  - 31 Islands like Skye (4)
  - 36 Some women talk of curtains of tissue (7)
  - 41 Orange Laura and Morag peeled (6)
  - 42 End of sonnet 46 in anthology (6)
  - 45 Grand bar in music book (5)
  - 46 Tense TV programme (3)
  - 50 Vast quantity of earth bog absorbs (5)
  - 52 Stunned chiefs start to tremble (5)
  - 54 Proton in element London uni splits (7)
  - 56 Refugee from vile regime? (6)
  - 58 Honest fellow recorder (8)
  - 59 Until now crowd backed riveting reformer (7, two words)
  - 60 Head on beer (3)
  - 64 Any gum tree (4)
  - 65 Completely black whales may do this (5)
  - 68 Force enlisting private made a choice (5)
  - 70 Lax notation's minus a note in bass part (8)
  - 72 Maybe Nell painted seaquarium Arab neglected (8)
  - 74 Osiris's wife's pentad of aphrodisiacs (5)
  - 76 Gross content of rejected cheeseboard (5)
  - 78 Prices of seeds (4)
  - 80 Peter's letter (3)
  - 84 Popular opinion for example (8)
  - 86 Nightmare men share (6)
  - 88 Spain's seriously dry governor (6)
  - 94 Airport regular non-smoker visits (8)
  - 96 Trouble abroad (3)
  - 97 About 38.5% of intake blessed college (5)
  - 98 Cheers almost ring out and reverberate (6, hyphenated)
  - 100 Name of tree songbird's on (6)
  - 102 Boffin in van behind mine (7)
  - 107 English ladies out following the sun (7)
  - 109 Brazen scribe (4)
  - 111 Pleader let down 250 inside (5)
  - 113 I struggled being overgrown (5)
  - 114 Japan adoring endless breaks (6)
  - 117 Cuckoo riled crow (4)
  - 118 Hey! Sick jockeys cry in the chase (6)
  - 120 Review backing *Equus* (5)
  - 122 An unofficial name (4)
  - 123 Shop exceeding the usual service (6)
  - 125 Troubled girl in retreat? (5)
  - 126 Handouts for mudlarks? (6)



A first prize of £100, three prizes of £25 and six further prizes of *Follow This Thread: A Maze Book to Get Lost In* by Henry Eliot (Penguin) will be awarded for the first correct solutions opened. The first four winners will each also receive a bottle of champagne. Email entries by 17 January to [crosswords@spectator.co.uk](mailto:crosswords@spectator.co.uk), putting 'Christmas Crossword' in the subject field. Please include a phone number. This is to arrange delivery if you win champagne.

**Name and address** .....

**Tel:** .....

- Down**
- 2 Homer playing a trumpet (6)
  - 3 Marauder killing second uhlan? (5)
  - 5 Tile from hovel close to Rio (6)
  - 7 Apparel so black (4)
  - 11 Who loathes potato? (4)
  - 14 Way to handle deliveries publishers spoil then wrapped (7, three words)
  - 15 Sort area deploying garden tools (8)
  - 22 Peanuts producer largely in synagogue (5)
  - 25 Diabolical serpent (3)
  - 26 Worried giant keeps active (5)
  - 32 Oscar's governess in gaol just after becoming married (5)
  - 33 Ill recruiters one leaves to revive (9)
  - 35 Car holding empty hotel's furniture (5)
  - 40 Legendary cave (3)
  - 41 Value of Australian camel? (6)
  - 43 Run all the way and stop (5, two words)
  - 44 Suits tailor flogs (4)
  - 45 Plant pike and ray ruined (6)
  - 48 Rocket fuel causes great mess, we hear (6)
  - 49 Extra bet based on forecasts (6, two words)
  - 51 Swat angry fly (4)
  - 53 Foot missing pedal for ages (4)
  - 57 Warriors sip mild (4)
  - 63 Hill snow hides (3)
  - 65 Newsgroups value Sean perhaps (6)
  - 67 Beautiful bird (3)
  - 69 Heifer ate vetch (4)
  - 71 Plain Peg exercises (6)
  - 73 Flash Lilliputian (6)
  - 75 Dawdle in shop (4)
  - 76 Eye roving again (4)
  - 77 Chinese is fine (5)
  - 81 Poet's ashes left in peace (5)
  - 83 Excellent earrings (4)
  - 85 US footballer half nervous ran out (5)
  - 87 District's active and authentic (5)
  - 91 Orton handles drama (3)
  - 93 Pastor put on 'efty feller's gear (5)
  - 95 One searching round Lima for tool (7)
  - 96 Mature seagull (3)
  - 101 Woolly tufts Mrs Capp sees? Yes (6)
  - 104 Flower in exotic sauce (6)
  - 105 Blue Becky sobs (3)
  - 106 Dance tune arranged by me (6)
  - 108 Dicky cuts six hairs (5)
  - 110 Immature crabs river girl nets (5)
  - 115 Rags beggars wore (4)
  - 116 Woodmouse's fate (4)
  - 117 Base wastrel (4)
  - 121 China tea plate (3)