

2594:

Dotty + Nosey
by La Jerezana

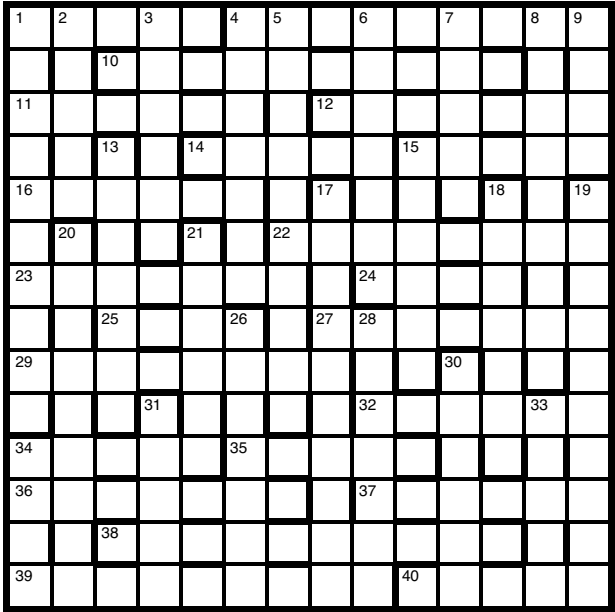
Eight unclued lights spell out the second half of a poem: ‘8 (4,5) 37; 1D (6,4); 39 (3,6) 40; 10 (3,5,2) 24 25.’ The title cryptically suggests its author.

Across

- 1 Gossipy quartet of bridge players play at last (5)
- 4 Accompanying Ford, Maggie’s oddly withdrawn (9)
- 11 Duty of French king after a month (6)
- 12 Looking happy, retired setter’s invading pitch (7)
- 14 Benders in Tyneside perhaps captured in Loach film (5)
- 15 *Nirvana* composer (5)
- 16 Ten silent guards store food for livestock (6)
- 22 Ale discombobulated the sailors of Morocco, perhaps (8)
- 23 Old lady heard someone munching sorbet (7)
- 27 Invent an absolutely round window (7)
- 29 Boldness of Calvin’s Reformation over a year (8)
- 32 Favour eating hot American Indian dish (6)
- 34 Carpet that goes on the roof (5)
- 35 As she’s sad, sons all disappeared in the van (5)
- 36 Cannabis residue is found in hospitals (7)
- 38 Finally puts batter on fish and tripe (10)

Down

- 2 Student and I leaving dictionary for old lag (2-3)
- 3 Dirty Doris sadly died (6)
- 4 Distinguished rapper fails to finish books (7)
- 5 Nieces glad to get treatment for squint (4,6)



- 6 Angrily slam WHO for current principle (4,3)
- 7 In one’s mind, forgetting people count (5)
- 9 Food produced in layers (4)
- 13 As a rule, extremely uxorious friend supports United (7)
- 15 Scottish island sits on neon gas (6)
- 17 Perhaps lead kind of rock group? (5,5)
- 18 Narrator of old story upset boring bishop (7)
- 19 At home with dad, everyone interrupts relative at the same time (2,8)
- 20 Cricketer Ali ran carelessly into supporter (5,4)
- 21 Drip gripped by fury in bank (6)
- 26 Chaps cycling backwards with idiots, mostly in a group (2,5)
- 28 Encircles half of them and dances (7)
- 30 Kind of 27 ejecting Indian dog (6)
- 31 Heartily greet revolting toper full of hard spirit (5)
- 33 Island nation near us regularly ignored sport (5)

34 Wings of sluggish, ageing bird (4)

A first prize of £30 and two runners-up prizes of £20 for the first correct solutions opened on 20 March. 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 2594, The Spectator, 22 Old Queen Street, London SW1H 9HP. Please allow six weeks for prize delivery. The dictionary prize is not available at present.

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