Crossword 2608: Support by CheeseCracker

Ten symmetrically placed unclued lights can be entered given consistent support.

Across

- 1 Left old murder victim in slip (5)
- 10 An historic fancy Greek vestment (10)
- 11 Snowdrift BBC DG once reported (6)
- 14 Runs into show behind dimwit (5)
- 15 Good spicy food omitting cold fish offal (5)
- 16 On a pump, perhaps repair electronic failure to turn (6)
- 22 So, LBW and run out delayed reaction (4,4)
- 23 A silly me hides in extremely high tree (4-3)
- 27 Group of stars missing king's refined irony (7)
- 29 Rude Spanish guy uncovered tirade (8)
- 32 Worker mostly dependent upon backing (6)
- 34 Late birds dance without it (5)
- 35 Conservative avoiding dirty red (5)
- 37 Bill's pouch having backdated penny? (6)
- 38 Keep camera trained, finding dove? (10)
- 40 Pipe valley running through Britain (5)

Down

- 2 Intermittently hare-brained poetic visionary (5)
- 4 They repeat base tasks with delayed runs (7)
- 5 Making much of revolutionary PM's no good (10)
- 6 Former lover of father, one that's negatively charged (7)

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- 7 Rout out second large moulding (5)
- 8 Drummer sporting ever so terribly small garment (9)
- 9 Modify state lines (4)
- 13 Department enthralled by Shakespeare's sonnets (7)
- 15 Old German crosses Westminster court (2,4)
- 17 Dutch artist academy dealt with ma'am badly (4-6)
- Mostly blend chilli without heating pasta (7)
- 20 Unknown gunk over E. coli loosely related to mass of bacteria (9)
- 21 When naked, run a risk chopping trees (6)
- 26 Seabird found by sailor on boulder (7)
- 28 Smooth expert nets fish (4,3)
- 31 Northern Dutch settler hides blunder (5)
- 33 Swelling, more and more grim, finally advanced (5)
- 34 Rubbish half of dull term in work (4)

A first prize of £30 and two runners-up prizes of £20 for the first correct solutions opened on 26 June. 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 2608, 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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