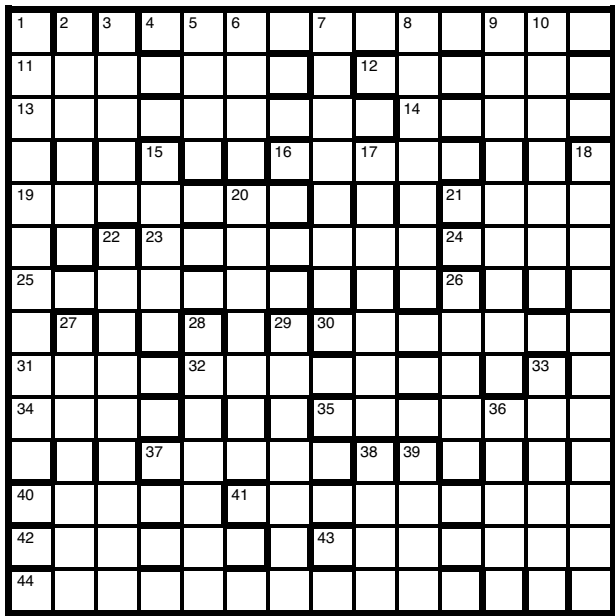


# Crossword

## 2610: 700

by Doc

This is Doc's 700th crossword in the weekly series. The unrelated unclued lights (including one pair and two proper nouns) display this number.



### Across

- 4 Old nonsense played on the violin by earl by river (6-2-3)
- 11 White spirit which Travis Head initially put on part of dartboard (7)
- 12 A French girl returns first to old shallow lake (6)
- 14 Small cigar without a shell (5)
- 16 Black market trader's location (5)
- 19 Lots of books (7)
- 21 Fruit – or two, we hear (4)
- 23 Local hawker having time with loudmouth (7)
- 24 Article detailed Thailand and its location (4)
- 25 Creche facilities ready to be deployed round about (3,4)
- 30 Biro or Bic for Saki, say (3,4)
- 31 Gamble, but cut it fine (4)
- 32 Poor socialite is missing purgative medicine (7)
- 34 Callaghan hosts a Turkish commander (4)
- 35 Spoke of Cardinal's fabric (7)
- 37 Big cat at bay? (5)
- 40 Russian unit, experienced it's said (5)
- 41 Let loose with crumpled Brillo pad, say (5,4)
- 43 Strong desire shown by Gardner and Condoleezza (7)
- 44 Chilli and black plum cooked on ascent (6,5)

### Down

- 1 Boys caught in street light when the Welsh celebrate (2,6,3)
- 2 Jack may be in it – the TV, of course (3,3)
- 3 Fibre one's covered in tar, almost (5)
- 5 Bird losing head and part of foot (4)
- 6 Fifty-two cards on floor of ship (4)
- 7 Minstrels topped US woodwind players (7)
- 10 Linear C oddly needing no encryption (2,5)
- 17 Another Etonian's confined to that place (7)
- 20 Means to close entrance to labyrinth? (7)
- 27 Thoroughly investigate – don't scratch the surface! (3,4)
- 28 Oddly champ virtually reveals stock of money (7)
- 36 One in bed's getting up, indifferent to pain (5)
- 38 Roots of remarkable victory (4)
- 39 One tight-lipped about stuff changing hands (4)

A first prize of £30 and two runners-up prizes of £20 for the first correct solutions opened on 10 July. Please scan or photograph entries and email them (including the crossword number in the subject field) to [crosswords@spectator.co.uk](mailto:crosswords@spectator.co.uk), or post to: Crossword 2610, The Spectator, 22 Old Queen Street, London SW1H 9HP.

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