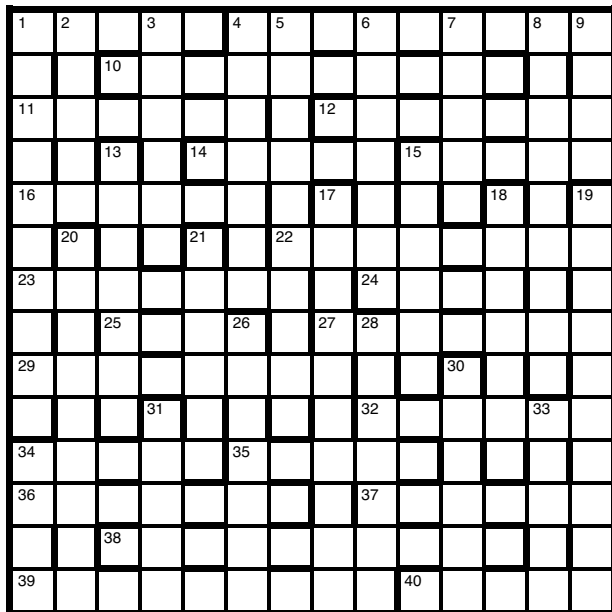


2627:

## Chroniced lives

by *La Jerezana*

Eight unclued lights are of a kind. Their unchecked and mutually checked letters can be rearranged to spell TOY OF A PARISH DEACON.



### Across

- 1 Tramp with extremely dirty pet (5)
- 10 Believe cad misguided and open to being misled (10)
- 12 UK dramatist wreathing US city in bunting (7)
- 14 Flagged cab at last on English border (5)
- 15 Runs away from robust scrutiny (5)
- 16 Former kingdom of Crimea disintegrated (6)
- 22 Gloss paint oddly disappearing, not put away (8)
- 23 Company engaged in laundering, ignoring a stockholder (7)
- 24 Half-cut GP dismissed painful condition (4)
- 25 Courageous sort from Lisbon losing heart (4)
- 27 Eastern leader smuggling goods for boffin (7)
- 29 Tipsy heiress guzzling Rioja's top wines (8)
- 32 Administer gas to tenor after time in A&E (6)
- 34 University campus is housing retinue (5)
- 35 Animal beset by catarrh in October (5)
- 37 Musk almost backing Tesla up gum-tree (6)
- 38 Endorsed destruction of inlaid tile (10)
- 39 Parasite left styes festering (6,3)

### Down

- 1 Amazingly slim, poetic debater (10)

- 2 Entertain some ignoramuses (5)
- 3 Discover cop arresting another cop (6)
- 4 Toughen ban, explicitly covering poisonous plant (7)
- 5 Buoyancy aid Blair used over summer (3,7)
- 7 Unknown Yankee accepting fate in foreign capital (5)
- 8 Anchorage bar in which saddos regularly drink (9)
- 9 Reject cases of desperate nitwittery (4)
- 15 Endless bore finally extinguishing cigarette butt (6)
- 17 At home in Argyll, exhausted after examination of gut (10)
- 18 Superhero skewered by European cartoonist (7)
- 19 Official announcement of award money (10)
- 20 Short guy unwisely consuming old dairy products (9)
- 26 Chemical reportedly nigh on commonplace (7)
- 30 Drive right into pontiff on left (6)
- 31 Check fans turned up on time (5)
- 33 Bloomer putting French solver on edge (5)
- 34 Listening devices picked up quarrel (4)

A first prize of £30 and two runners-up prizes of £20 for the first correct solutions opened on 6 November. 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 2627, The Spectator, 22 Old Queen Street, London SW1H 9HP. Please allow six weeks for prize delivery.

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