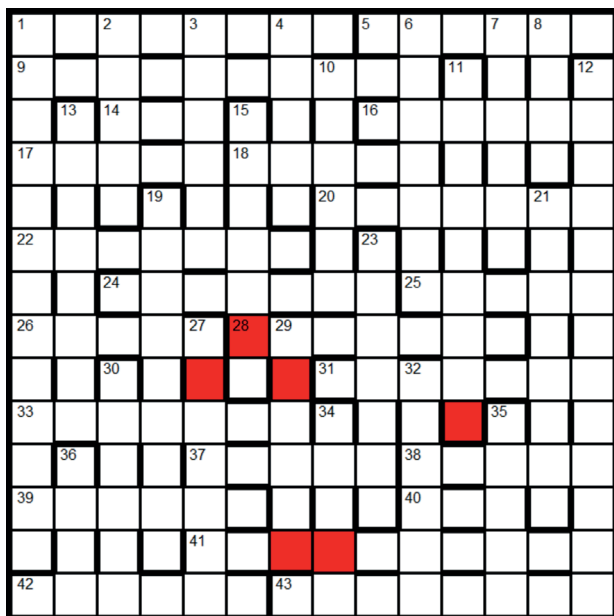


2631:

Nine capitalists

by Doc

The unclued lights are of a kind, verifiable in *Brewer* with the help of the red squares which must be read in order row by row. Ignore one apostrophe and an acute accent, elsewhere.



Across

- 9 Terrible President out on a limb at heart, troubled (10)
- 14 Courier company raises its charges (3)
- 16 Make one see red – possibly green and a touch of amber! (6)
- 17 Author moving gently, dropping article (5)
- 20 Mathematician coming across wife in Milton Keynes, say (3,4)
- 22 Travels by plane and a Roman road to Timeless Test (7)
- 24 Highbrow title is affected (7)
- 25 Sounding like *Matilda*'s creator's Indian dishes (5)
- 26 Youngster central to 19, sadly (5)
- 28 See what people say? (3-4)
- 31 Humble US soldier and his heron (4,3)
- 33 Some eighty pesetas for what composers do (7)
- 37 Manage backing hot date (5)
- 38 Philosopher and squad not working (5)
- 39 Vermin eating the Spanish honey badgers (6)
- 40 Gold cape for ogre in Tolkien's work (3)
- 41 Leo's lot is the greatest (5,5)

Down

- 1 Dearest harrow ordered here? (8,5)
- 2 Twisted insult (5)

- 3 European bison left – is inside (6)
- 4 Swear words as poor Botham's losing his British Medal (5)
- 6 Poor Nesar, disheartened – got married – revived (7)
- 7 Kelvin's casual playing of the horn (6)
- 8 Easter gifts gratefully supplied as starters (4)
- 10 Pancakes with awnings, not drawn first, around one (6)
- 12 Chic youngsters see no jeers due, surprisingly (8,5)
- 15 Style we recreated in such a charming way (7)
- 23 Song sung by the chorus getting criticism that's explosive (7)
- 27 Two girls touching Australian parakeet (7)
- 29 Wholly at home, child given love (2,4)
- 30 Boy taking cannabis. You've got it! (4,2)
- 32 Work, taking position behind counter (6)
- 34 Recitatives starting Scarletti compositions even (5)
- 35 Cadbury import raised in BOAC accident (5)
- 36 French man of note at heart of skiing race (4)
- A first prize of £30 and two runners-up prizes of £20 for the first correct solutions opened on **1 December**. 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 2631, The Spectator, 22 Old Queen Street, London SW1H 9HP. Please allow six weeks for prize delivery. The early deadline is because of the Christmas printing schedule.
- Name**
- Address**
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