Crossword 2678: Winning words by Fire

Four unclued lights are of a kind and the remaining four can be arranged to indicate what unites them.

Across

- Woman with vintage Italian dress in racecourse (8)
- 6 Attack mischief maker with plastic gnu (6)
- 10 Electrical components in versatile robots (12)
- 11 Almost all wickerwork repelled essential oil (5)
- 13 Vehicle levy I back, largely, in a roundabout way (7)
- 14 Ordered Horse & Hound (3,3)
- 16 Domain name in health app (4)
- 17 Have no connection with bachelor at first formal (5,3)
- 23 Keats unsettled after a tea for audience is uncertain (2,5)
- 25 Resin starts to leak across carpet (3)
- 28 Meadowsweets in part of church spanning beginning of aisle (7)
- 29 Sprinklers in some boats (8)
- 34 Crooked tutor can snitch (8)
- 35 Astonish with short trick (4)
- 36 Wants a different language (6)
- 38 Australia? Not a large country? (7)
- 39 Drink in extremely straitlaced place (5)
- 40 Hint about cryptic clues in notes gives some clarity (12)
- 41 River monster is after me! (6)

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42 Old navigation aids remaining on ship (8)

Down

- 1 Celebrity panel at three o'clock? (9)
- 2 Perhaps creative writing and drama making a comeback within constraints (4)
- 3 One knowing promoter of lawlessness in the past (6)
- 4 Recently discovered tofu expired (2,4)
- 6 Am I grey? Possibly, in pictures (7)
- 8 Older woman artist taking narcotic produces high art (5,5)
- 12 Reposition fake tattoo (8)
- 15 After midnight, Carl and I foolishly used to fight vampires (6)
- 19 Look into disappearance of fish slice? (8)
- 20 Old Navy employee occasionally goes to another US retailer (6)
- 22 Odd dip seen at certain times of the month (4,5)
- 24 Can students' union do it? It's open to debate (8)

- 31 Cool beverage in quirky cafeteria, desperately far away (3,3)
- 32 Devotional afterthought small donation to charity (5)
- 33 Passionate about taking run warm-up (5)
- 37 Thanks court for diplomacy (4)

A first prize of £30 and two runners-up prizes of £20 for the first correct solutions opened on 18 November. 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 2678, The Spectator, 22 Old Queen Street, London SW1H 9HP.

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