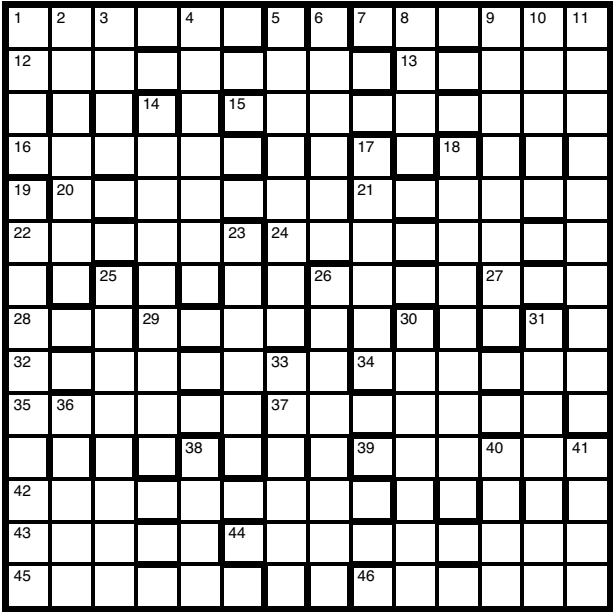


Royal following
by Fire

All but one of the unclued lights are of a kind, verifiable in *Brewer*. The remaining one links the others. Ignore one apostrophe and two accents.

- Across**
- 12 Prepare linguine vongole starter for opening ceremony (9)
- 13 Two guys retiring to Hawaiian island (5)
- 15 Cartoonists redesign a main story, cutting the end (9)
- 16 Letter about convict in fur coat (6)
- 20 Sore feeling follows a dry official (7)
- 21 Game start for cavalier tough guy (6)
- 22 Notice vicar coming back with bishop drunkenly? (6)
- 24 Declaring final leg in gymnastics displays (8)
- 27 Pitch for art nouveau (3)
- 32 I mix gin and it on lighting up (8)
- 35 One third of all footsores may develop into much bigger growths (6)
- 37 Go back to tenant over final part of upgrade (2-5)
- 39 Repeat standard rubbish (6)
- 42 Wealthy male taking drug in government building (9)
- 43 I had a tool for caller ID (5)

- Down**
- 1 Equipment has crack (4)
- 2 Edit any rude description of ill-advised king (7)
- 4 Over range, fresh rain falls (7)
- 5 Checks good and bad actors after drink (8)
- 6 Complain partners live untidily (6)



- 8 Have a game of Othello? (4)
- 9 Wickedness and hatred overwhelming men (8)
- 10 Heads of Bournville, Ovaltine, Rowntree and Cadbury rejected chocolate substitute (5)
- 11 Acrobatic hoist, weights and high bars are common occurrences here (10)
- 14 Bad writer is silly goose? (5,4)
- 17 Sweet city with liberal vibe (6)
- 18 Show time in storage (9)
- 19 Doctor participated without physical training relating to children's medicine (10)
- 23 Juvenile delinquent is on the up to some extent (6)
- 25 Seriously gutted – not one tiny glass of liquid in joint (8)
- 26 Moan audibly about empty snack container (4,4)
- 30 A little woman ate every sea creature (7)
- 31 Crown is my single piece of treasure (7)
- 33 Addressed to 'Dear Dicky' (6)
- 36 Labour in firm belief (5)
- 38 You ain't half grand! (4)
- 40 Boring plants irking us now and then (4)
- 41 Go off climbing small hills (4)

A first prize of a £30 John Lewis voucher and two runners-up prizes of £20 vouchers for the first correct solutions opened on 2 February. 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 2735, The Spectator, 22 Old Queen Street, London SW1H 9HP.

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