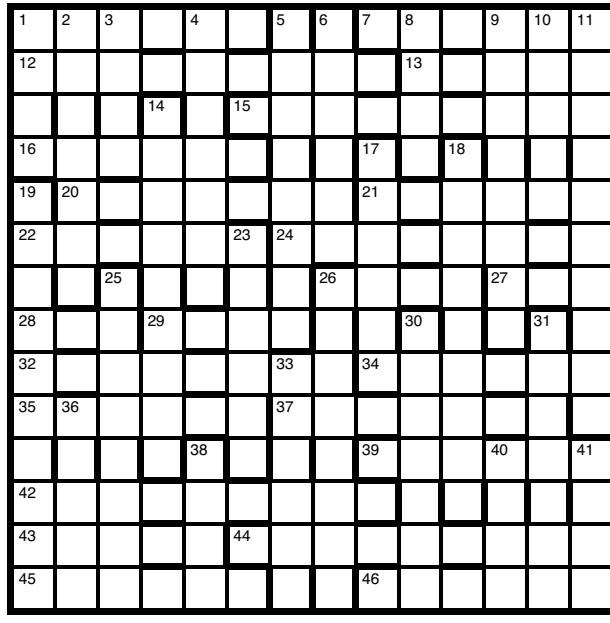
Crossword 2779: Famous Fives

by Doc



The unclued lights form two groups.

Across

7 Englishman sounds cross (6)
12 Female pal screwed up rag (5-4)
15 French players from Rochester (9)
20 Aristo, one taking in atmosphere in capital (7)
21 One girl and another embracing fellow (6)
22 Gong that's dull over and over again (3-3)
24 Change course of retired lunatic around college (8)
27 Dry at half-time (3)
28 Dusky maiden's pudding? (3)
29 Some semester mainly (4)
32 Acid in beers found in upper chambers (8)
34 Small Californian governor's butty (6)
35 Dress for Basinger and Yoko (6)
37 Citadel in ruins around the river mouth (7)
39 One of the oceanids places articles by cross (6)
42 I tailored new opinion piece (9)
43 Founders broadcast updates (5)
44 I will leave, cleared of all charges that were rejected as unmerited (3-6)
45 Initiate a set, having the support beforehand (6)
46 Bird I love seen in border area (6)

Down

1 Family banned from smoking – a health hazard (4)
2 Friend making Ms Lollobrigida a nest of leaves (7)
3 Start address to writer? (4)
4 Capital near the bombing (7)
5 The mind of Conservative previously at familiar city (8)
8 Thames estuary island with zero water (4)
9 Pals' feelings when changing direction of afternoon shows (8)
10 Cockneys were told of having made mistakes (5)
11 Attention grabber has to watch baseball player (3-7)
14 Accepted soldier on assigned post, lost head with deep worry (9)
17 Girls with attitude, Mel first and then 38 (6)
18 Old Bristolian vehicle yard permit (4,5)
19 1000 treatises revised are most unpredictable (10)
26 Sport's dance HQ is exchanged (8)
30 Bullfighter resorting to drama (7)
33 On occasions, seadog will 'Aye' nervously (6)
36 Record company outside the mainstream in the WI (5)
41 One German poet loses capital (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 3 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 2779, The Spectator, 22 Old Queen Street, London SW1H 9HP. *Please note the early deadline owing to the Christmas schedule.*

Name .....

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