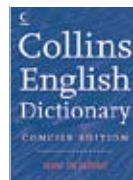


Set by Araucaria

A copy of the Collins English Dictionary will be sent to the first 10 correct entries drawn.

Entries to: The Guardian Crossword No 24,887, P.O. Box 6603, Birmingham, B26 3PR, or Fax to 0121-742 1313 by first post on Thursday 31 December.

Solution and winners in the Guardian on Monday 4 January



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Solutions to clues beginning with a number (and maybe a letter) in parenthesis, which is related to 32, are 51s and lack further definition

### Across

- 1 (3) Dental problem – immerse in whisky (10)
- 6 Rose from dessert with cheese recipe (10)
- 13 (2b) Pleased with weight (9)
- 14 (2b) Geneticist’s remarkable honours (11)
- 15 (2b) Both sides adapted waders in a series (7,6)
- 16 Well-bred Pole coming in to obtain fish (7)
- 17 Philosopher’s right to a cupboard (6)
- 19 (5a) New line for old solver in stature with his first (5,3,6)
- 23 (2b) Haughty child of nobleman (8)
- 25 (1b) I agree to the return of darkness with raptor about (5,7)
- 31 (1.5d) Book featuring David the poet’s realm and Burnley’s endless potential (8,7,6)
- 32 European dog gets on its hind legs without colouring in war time (7,5)
- 33 (2b) Report of game being played (8)
- 35 Society’s answer to copper – gambles cut short by extreme republicanism (14)

- 39 Opposition held during broadcast (6)
- 43 (1.5b) Junior doctor lacking energy (7)
- 45 (2b) Sea and land cut short by river in border (5,5,3)
- 48 Current record made by cool girls next morning (11)
- 49 Special sort of care supplied by 5 90s (9)
- 50 (1.5d) Came across bird and setter abroad (10)
- 51 Look back from secret port (10)

### Down

- 1 Spelling mistakes in claim about silver (7)
- 2 Beast climbing the whole morning? (5)
- 3 French explorer in the room (2,5)
- 4 Scottish ringdove has rings to throw, changing ends (6)
- 5 Leave wandering boy in state of exaltation (8)
- 7 Player on the side, crazy one that’s soon turned (4,3)
- 8 Table decoration from Nigeria raised and protected by sword (7)
- 9 Dog that’s quiet when Franklin’s heard to be about (7)
- 10 Setter’s nobody? Got it straight away! (2,3)
- 11 Explorer of the moon turns up at pub (7)
- 12 Bird with smoggy sound? (4)

- 18 Sing about great start for early man (3-6)
- 20 Mountain dweller turned gold to poverty in the matter of a drug (5,4)
- 21 Given heart minus head, possibly (9)
- 22 Muck-up going round or very hot (6)
- 23 Rock band in Memphis has heard swimmer send bogus emails? (5)
- 24 Prevent distribution of bread (5)
- 26 Married poet’s work in fashion (4)
- 27 Count with less feeling (6)
- 28 Leaderless country besieged by fleet must have another race (5)
- 29 Fleet launcher 5 into bird (5)
- 30 Heaven and ecstasy now linked with Scotland (4)
- 34 Debilitating pain for poet on aircraft (8)
- 35 Silent companion during rising of assemblies (7)
- 36 Dumas heroine appeared badly introduced (7)
- 37 (2b) Cathedral city (7)
- 38 The Greek (no Democrat) or Gothic king (no ditto) was Shakespeare’s idea (7)
- 40 5 plant from 21 said to be on Cape Cod (7)
- 41 Which is the situation in bad weather (7)

- 42 Playwright’s play opening presently (6)
- 44 What follows word for “hook” in index to book that’s all there (5)
- 46 Handicapped but willing to play (4)
- 47 (2d) Article in wood (5)

Solution No. 24,886

