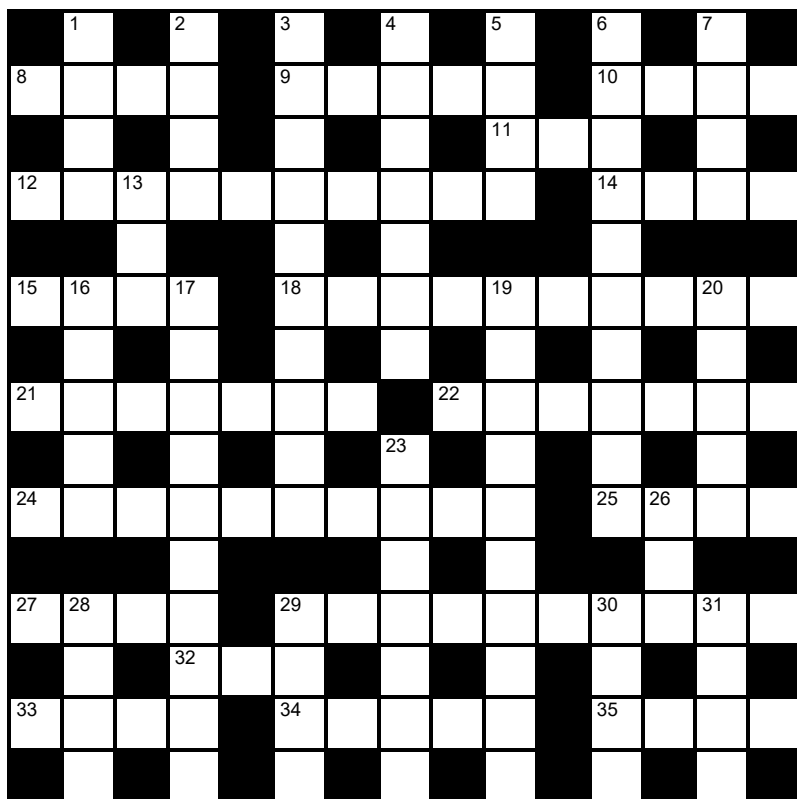


Crossword #40

By Skirwingle



Across

- 8 The French go for this toy (4)
- 9 Stop breathing, almost, with nothing that's found on exotic fruit & veg stand (5)
- 10 In addicts' group, returning one's continent (4)
- 11 Note to bring in a catch (3)
- 12 Change on my column to an extreme degree (10)
- 14 Group of soldiers in continual retreat (4)
- 15 Game that's a long way off getting started (4)
- 18 BAs can shuffle around behind domestic coaches (10)
- 21 Lost spy boss gets end away! (7)
- 22 City's late alteration: five to four (3,4)
- 24 Sign of where old star was unable to be cast following call (4,6)
- 25 Who assists Ariadne, intermittently? (4)
- 27 For Bertie, maybe Agatha cooked tuna (4)
- 29 Person making a positive contribution perhaps, getting the message peripherally (5,5)
- 32 Cells contributing to renovation (3)
- 33 Born before Australian runs by (4)
- 34 Old Brits in charge before England and the Province (5)
- 35 To follow order, yes? (4)

Down

- 1 A long time after getting up, breathlessness dispatched a prince (4)
- 2 Cut up by old Volkswagen (4)
- 3 *Murder in Cheam?* Bizarre chiller (3,7)
- 4 Number working with Democrat – yes, twelve (7)
- 5 Fashionable American's new trifle's brought round (4)
- 6 Fresh start forbidden with great batsman supported by South Africa (6,4)
- 7 Stereo headphones include four-inch openings (2-2)
- 13 What are the odds of Claire getting 2dn, for example? (3)
- 16 Spielberg film embraces liberal defence (5)
- 17 I blog about a Conservative – it has to be done (10)
- 19 Late 70s roles for Gene Hackman and Wendy Craig support a historic library (10)
- 20 Perhaps daughter of mystic Hildegard (5)
- 23 Knock down dog – peacekeepers get involved (3,4)
- 26 Somewhere to drink eastern spirit, if tuxedo's removed (3)
- 28 Compound found in your ear, some say (4)
- 29 Release funds (4)
- 30 Instrument's not broken, despite odd bits being missing (4)
- 31 Provide access to circular enclosure (4)