



**Across**

- 1 The pirates are in Grimsby? You're kidding (4,6)
- 2 Sounds like this Caledonian was very tentative about declining a point (5,6)
- 4 A loss initially departed one of the nuts following the Gaelic patron (7,5)
- 7 Stuck in Iberia, Scottish king gets 3 points and a clean sheet (5,7)
- 9 Avoid getting mixed up amongst the heath (4,5)
- 11 His legs haven't gone. Well not all of them, I hear. Even if they had, he could take the car (4,4)

- 13 French department store? Dad's stuck in the gun section like a boss (4-5,4-5)
- 16 They say that the doubter should stay where he is (5,6)
- 18 Local lad bothers the top half of his emu? (5,7)
- 20 O, spoil the wordplay losing half the horse (4,5)
- 21 Did Rees ask him "Soldier, is anything happening?" before they got in a fight at Darlington? (5,6)
- 22 Ebbing away? you know, the drill (5,4)
- 23 Tangled lines about forest for former slow but skilful striker (4,5)

- 24 Can he be trusted when he is mixed up in the New Jersey nylon hose theft? (4,7,5)

**Down**

- 1 Craving for a noble gas in Grimsby? Lump on this top scorer (4,5)
- 2 Clever and weighty, it sounds like he's had a trim (5,10)
- 3 Sounds like the chap in the Turkish takeaway vehicle is semi bulletproof (5,7)
- 5 A useful monastery? We're winging it (4,9)
- 6 Great 10. Trick half of capital into thinking he's a footballer (5,6)
- 8 I hear the stain's going (4,5)

- 10 Fighter is ranked, gets a point then gets a raise (5,4)
- 12 It sounds like He didn't even go to church for midnight mass and the saint's laughing at his partner (5,10)
- 13 it sounds like the holy father's in a bit of a hole, mate (3-4,7)
- 14 No dutch double for this lone poacher? Yes, Immanuel speculates on the Welsh coast (6,6)
- 15 Grecian returned to his bonnie homeland but surely should have been a Mariner! (5,7)
- 17 Toner - yes, not exactly an exponent of the backheel (4,4)
- 19 Big old worker on the wing (3,6)