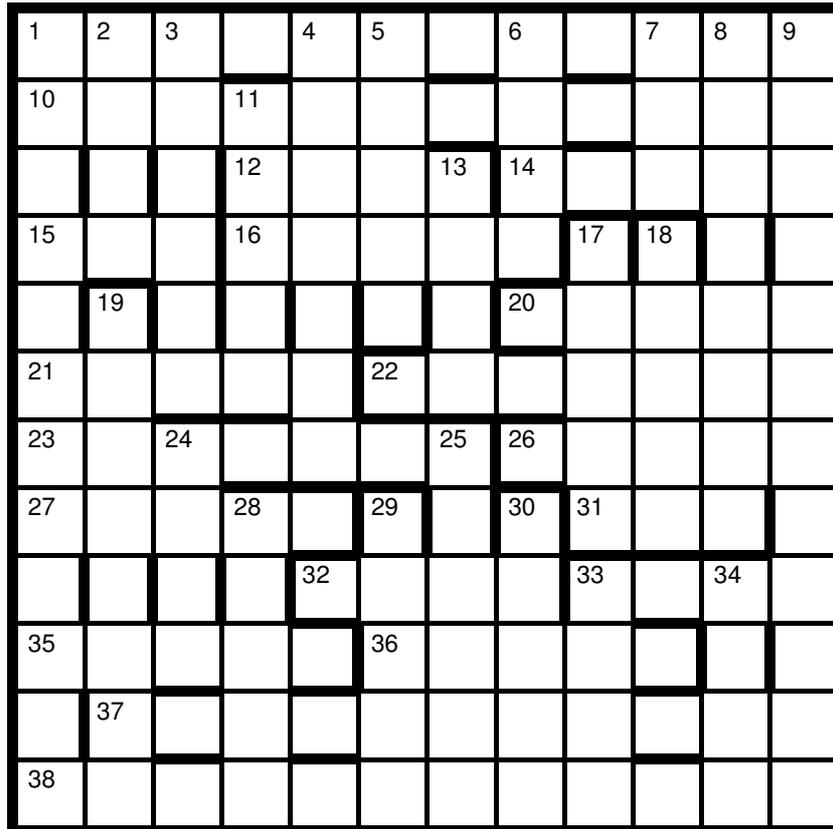


Half-baked by Chalicea

Nine half-baked characters (ancient and modern) circle the perimeter and two appear in the unclued lights. An extra letter not required for the answer, appears in the wordplay of alternate clues. These letters, in clue order, give an instruction to solvers. 20 and 5 are in *Collins*. Unchecked perimeter and corner letters would spell EGOISTIC WIND-UP - WOE!



Across

- 10** Throttles muscles that increase rate of function (12)
- 12** Painful to contemplate essentially waste metal aggregates (4)
- 14** Weeping to become evident to the ear (5)
- 15** According to Will, incite to fight Himalayan wild goat (3)
- 16** Some sad incidents recalled involving jellyfish stings (5)
- 20** Related to facial features in reshaped crania (5)
- 21** Refuse narrow part we're told (5)
- 23** Instrument of Dutchmen regularly or US fellow (7)
- 26** Ice formation spoiled acres (5)

- 27 Hapless dieter grown weary (5)
- 31 Operator shown the way back (3)
- 32 Discretion with ordinary item of Mexican cookery (4)
- 33 Elude British type (4)
- 35 Overturned in south-west genuine Boer encampments (5)
- 36 Partly unpack a valuable musical instrument (5)
- 37 Belligerence of oiliest host I mishandled (11)

Down

- 2 Official proceedings of informal agreements lacking power (4)
- 3 Achieves at first considerably more on-board ship (6)
- 5 Set up again some of offshore rights (5)
- 6 No historical military commander in group of peoples from Burmese hills (4)
- 7 Cook English animal (3)
- 8 Pacific airliner running amok, involving speed of light (8)
- 11 In Stratford maintain armed guard with no resistance (5)
- 13 A deed reproduced in volume of mythology (4)
- 17 Looked intently ultimately spotting a final letter (5)
- 18 Old hag guarding rupees originally in vast number in India (5)
- 19 Mother with welcome twice over for edible marine fish (8)
- 24 Language of some heterosexuals (4)
- 25 Working phone available as needed (6, 2 words)
- 28 Formerly once closest but lacking second base (5)
- 29 Will's little lady mostly sporting in the north (5)
- 30 Shift around US soldier film (5)
- 33 Crazy blows (4)
- 34 Is situated on university place (4)