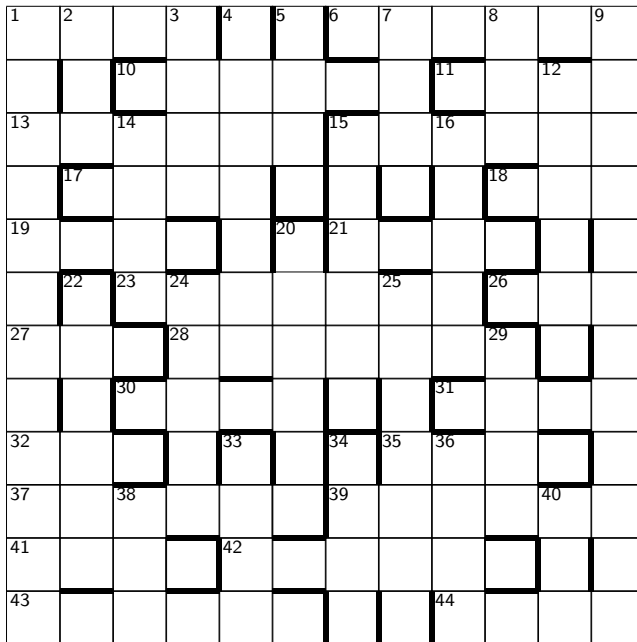


Off With Their Heads!

by Peter Fenner



Thirteen clues contain a word which should have its head removed before solving. Each of the corresponding answers should also be beheaded.

Twelve of the answers' heads should be returned to the grid. The heads removed from the clues, taken in clue order, describe what these twelve heads should do, relative to the other one, before this happens.

Across

1. Nothing new - "Off with their heads!" (4)
6. Indulged profound reflection about hedges in Tibet (6)
10. Closely followed circled events, close to review (6)
11. Robots are around everywhere - initially uncommon (4)
13. Distress First Lady with cycling outfit (6)
15. A stomachache might follow this constant disease? (3, 3)
17. Commotion caused by too much din on Radio 2 (2-2)
18. Previously require slacking daughter (3)
19. Boobies are birds (4)
21. Unattractive guy, 50, gets makeover (4)
23. Forward suggestion: trade one-for-one (7)
26. Who makes this boring sound? (3)
27. Rogue abstract art (3)
28. Drained, lethargic old man overwhelmed by small greeting (7)
30. Magazine suppresses source of image of dress (4)
31. North-western lad comes back at sunrise (4)
32. Dump in West Yorkshire (3)
35. Bank index (4)
37. I am outraged after reported trade of social media content (6)
39. Really awful cycling loses - last place in derby qualifier (6)
41. Bert's friend name-drops one of the Greats (4)
42. Wyvern always hiding in spring (6)
43. Deride senior over disorganised week (6)
44. School turning over £50, say (4)

Down

1. Close locks, taking tip to don clothes for bed (12)
2. Paddle regularly in hot water (3)
3. Prepared a ball/do/event - oddly uplifting (4)
4. Delegate to learned veterans - initially admired but backsliding (7)
5. Was visibly injured - paralysed from the waist down (4)
7. Polish and French entertaining Princess (4)
8. The way to holding area (3)
9. Animated 'Merlin' debate is not impossible to decide (12)
12. With regret, you're on the internet upset over dodgy fuel (6)
14. One? Zero? Scrap of titbit? A small amount (4)
15. Bound to drop dead in church after hit (6)
16. Man made from brick material, a sort of Lego man (5)
20. Mandy and Randy's heads have nits with ill intent (6)
22. More portly historic leader replaced with thin leader in old Oman (6)
24. Fantasy race associated with digging - primarily withdrawn (5)
25. Was unable to twist cold nut (7)
29. Comfort stopped when undressed (4)
33. Satan, losing head, falls back on lair (4)
34. Donkey Kong's lover: a first in romancing evil (4)
36. One vehicle is historically terrible, man (4)
38. Lay down to perish, left for dead (3)
40. Jabberwocky, baloney, prattle essentially (3)